

MINNESOTA HISTORY BULLETIN

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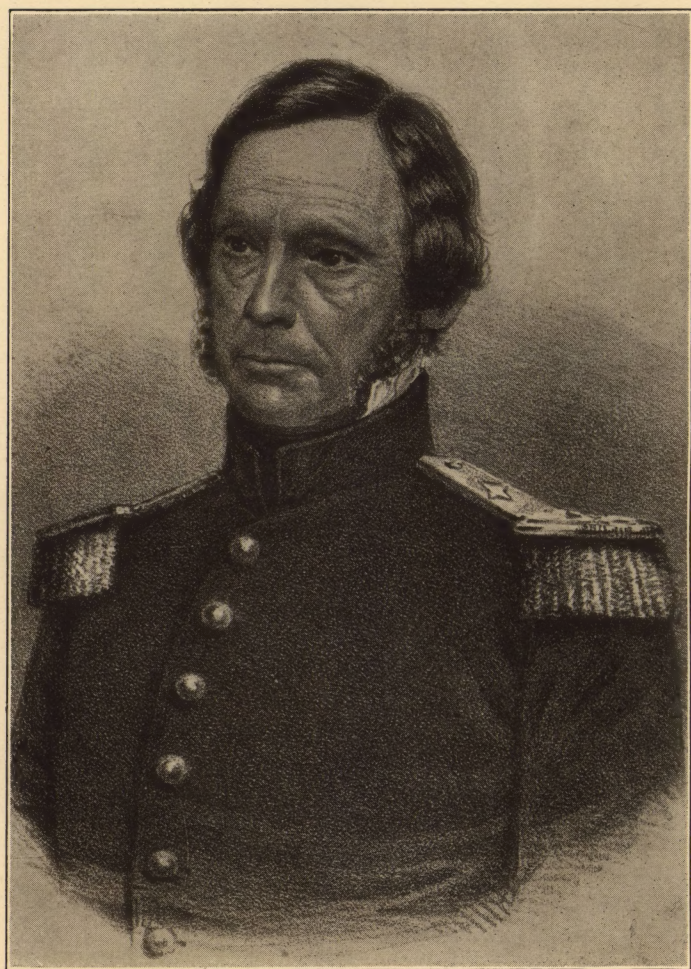
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MINNESOTA HISTORY BULLETIN

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S. H. Long. U. S. A.

THE LONG AND BELTRAMI EXPLORATIONS IN MINNESOTA ONE HUNDRED YEARS AGO¹

On the eighteenth day of July, 1823, a hundred years ago, a party of exploration under the leadership of Stephen H. Long came to the banks of the "Chanshayape watapa," or the stream of the "tree painted red." They stopped at a place about two miles above the junction of the Redwood with the Minnesota, then called the St. Peter's River. The beauty of the scenery appealed to the travelers, who were wearied of the monotony of the prairie. William H. Keating, professor of mineralogy and chemistry in the University of Pennsylvania, who was one of the party and who has given us our best account of the Long expedition in his work of two volumes,² describes the scene:

This is a beautiful rivulet, which was about eight yards wide where we crossed it. It runs in a wide and romantic valley. The bluffs which rise on both sides, are formed of a fine white sandstone. We stopped for a few moments on the edge of the bank, previous to descending into the valley, to enjoy the beautiful and refreshing scenery which offered itself to our view, and which formed a pleasing contrast with the burned and blasted appearance of the prairie. The junction of the valley of the St. Peter with that of its tributary, about two miles below the place where we stood, occasioned an expansion of both valleys at that spot. The beautiful and diversified vegetation, springing luxuriantly on the banks of both streams, the rapid current of the waters rushing to one common point, formed a landscape, which, at that time, appeared to us as smiling and as beautiful as any we had ever beheld.

¹ A paper read on June 23, 1923, at the state historical convention held under the auspices of the Minnesota Historical Society at Redwood Falls.

² *Narrative of an Expedition to the Sources of the St. Peter's River* (Philadelphia, 1824). A second edition appeared in London in 1825.

The rocky formation made a strong appeal to Keating, who was the geologist of the party. He found near the spot where the two valleys unite an interesting fragment of rock "of an irregular hemispherical form, about forty or fifty feet in circumference," which he believed to have been cleft by lightning. Descending into the valley of the Minnesota from the prairies with a view to selecting a camping site for the night, they found "high rocks of a rugged aspect" which "arose in an insulated manner in the midst of the widened valley, through which the St. Peter winds its way."

"The character of these rocks was examined with care, and found very curious. It seemed as if four simple minerals, quartz, felspar, mica, and amphibole, had united here to produce almost all the varieties of combination which can arise from the association of two or more of these minerals; and these combinations were in such immediate contact, that the same fragment might, as we viewed one or the other end of it, be referred to different rocks." This is the way these travelers of one hundred years ago were impressed with the land which lies at the confluence of the Redwood with the Minnesota.

It was in April, 1823, that Major Long, an officer of the United States Army, received the communication from the war department intrusting to him the command of an expedition which was to carry on the work of exploration begun by Lewis and Clark twenty years previously and continued by Zebulon M. Pike, who led an expedition into the West in 1805. The part of Major Long's instructions that has a special interest to Minnesotans ordered him to proceed up the Mississippi River from Fort Armstrong, now Rock Island, to Fort St. Anthony, later named Fort Snelling, "thence to the source of the St. Peter's River, thence to the point of intersection between Red River and the forty-ninth degree of north latitude, thence along the northern boundary of the United States to Lake Superior, and thence homeward by the Lakes. The object of the expedition is to make a general survey of the

country on the route pointed out, together with a topographical description of the same, to ascertain the latitude and longitude of all the remarkable points, to examine and describe its productions, animal, vegetable, and mineral; and to inquire into the character, customs, &c. of the Indian tribes inhabiting the same."

The party consisted of Stephen H. Long, major of topographical engineers; Thomas Say, zoölogist and antiquary; William H. Keating, mineralogist and geologist; Samuel Seymour, landscape painter and designer; these left Philadelphia on April 30; they were joined in Columbus by James Edward Colhoun, astronomer and assistant topographer. At Fort Crawford, on the site of Prairie du Chien, Wisconsin, which was reached on the night of June 19, they were reënforced by an escort of a corporal and nine men under the command of Lieutenant Martin Scott. Major Long also succeeded in securing the services of Augustine Roque, French half-breed interpreter, from whom they expected to gain an insight into Indian manners and customs which would otherwise have been impossible. But they were disappointed in the man, whose high reputation for intelligence, Keating remarks, was entirely undeserved. He contributed but little, and left the party at Fort St. Anthony.

Long and Colhoun with three others proceeded to Fort St. Anthony on horseback, under the guidance of a Sioux Indian. The remainder of the party journeyed in a light oar barge with a sail. The land party, after an extremely arduous journey up hill and down valley, through treacherous swamps, in which they frequently became mired, and through dense forests, arrived at the fort on July 2. They had reached Wabasha's village below Lake Pepin on June 28, and Red Wing's village on June 30. At the former they were greeted by a host of yelping dogs which rushed at them as they approached. At Red Wing's village Long found an Indian called "Shooter from the pine-top" who had accompanied him on his travels through a part of this region six years

previously. It was on this previous trip that Long had selected the site for Fort St. Anthony. At Red Wing's village a solemn council was held at which Long carefully explained to the Indians the objects of his expedition. The red men were favorably impressed and agreed to help the whites in their enterprise. A map of the country roundabout produced a great effect on the Indians, who saw something supernatural in the fact that so much information about rivers, lakes, and other geographical features could be preserved on paper or parchment.

Lieutenant Scott, in command of the other group, also encountered difficulties, though of different character. He discovered after leaving Prairie du Chien that while he had been otherwise occupied the men had disposed of a keg of liquor which was on board; they became so intoxicated that only the stern threat of death to the first disobedient oarsman prevented a general mutiny. At that it was found necessary to land for several hours and allow the crew to sleep off the intoxication. Only nine miles were covered on that day. In spite of the difficulties mentioned, however, the trip to Fort St. Anthony was made in seven and a half days, which was considered the shortest length of time in which it had ever been made.

The reunited party remained at the fort for a few days, enabling Keating to see all parts of the establishment. A careful description of it is preserved for us in his narrative. "The quarters are well built, and comfortable," he writes; "those of the commanding officers are even elegant, and suitable for the principal military post to the north-west. There were, at the time we visited it, about two hundred and ten acres of land under cultivation, of which one hundred were in wheat, sixty in maize, fifteen in oats, fourteen in potatoes, and twenty in gardens, which supply the table of the officers and men with an abundant supply of wholesome vegetables."

On July 6 the party walked to the Falls of St. Anthony, of which Keating writes that they had seen few falls which "present a wilder and more picturesque aspect." They had

been told that the river might be forded here and consequently they determined to make the attempt to cross above the falls. They all succeeded in reaching the island above the falls and two of the party reached the eastern bank, but at the hazard of their lives. Although the water was at no point more than two and one-half feet deep, the stone upon which they were treading was so smooth and the current so impetuous that they were in great danger of slipping and being carried over the falls to their destruction. All succeeded, however, in regaining the west shore in safety. Keating in his narrative of the expedition corrects the erroneous statements which previous explorers had made about the width of the river and the height of the falls. Hennepin, who had discovered the falls in 1680 and named them after his patron saint, St. Anthony of Padua, had placed the figure at fifty or sixty feet; Carver, at thirty feet; Pike, in 1805, at sixteen and one-half feet; Major Long, on a previous expedition in 1817, at the same. Colhoun, the topographer of the party, measured it at this time and found it to be fifteen feet. Keating believed the discrepancy between Long's measurement and Colhoun's to be due to the fact that they were probably taken at two different points in the falls. At this time there were two mills here for the use of the garrison at the fort and a sergeant was on guard at all times.

From an old Indian the travelers learned the tale of an incident which is supposed to have taken place at the falls, and which his mother, he said, had witnessed. A Dakota squaw, named Ampota Sapa, or "Dark Day," learned to her great grief that the husband with whom she had lived in great happiness for years had yielded to the importuning of a neighboring family which urged him to take another wife; his friends argued that a man of his reputation and importance, soon, without doubt, to be chief, needed more than one wife to dispense his hospitality. Without mentioning the subject to Ampota Sapa, he took another wife. When she learned of it, she stole away with her two small children to her father's

cabin a short distance away. One morning next spring the sad-hearted Indian wife launched her light canoe, entered it with her two children and paddled down the stream singing her death song. Too late was she discovered — she was beyond the power of rescue. Singing of her past happiness she was carried over the precipice and was seen no more. According to the Indians there could be heard sometimes in the morning a mournful song along the edge of the fall, and its theme was the inconstancy of the Indian husband. Some even have claimed that they have seen her spirit wandering near the spot, with her children hugged to her bosom. "Such are the tales or traditions which the Indians treasure up," says Keating, "and which they relate to the voyager, forcing a tear from the eyes of the most relentless."

The party also visited Minnehaha Falls and Lake Calhoun. They passed under the falls, then known as Brown's Falls, with no other inconvenience than that caused by the spray. The party made every effort to ascertain whether the Indians with whom they came in contact had ever witnessed the fall of meteoric stones, a subject which was then arousing considerable discussion in scientific circles. On being informed of the existence of a painted stone somewhere in this vicinity, they set out hopefully in search of it, but were disappointed to find it merely a boulder of sienite. They learned from conversation with some of the Indians that the latter held the belief that whenever lightning struck a tree a boulder of a black or brown color was deposited at its foot; these were very heavy and had at times been picked up while hot. Long's party was led to believe that these might have been aerolites and that the Indians, having in a few instances picked them up while hot, had mistaken them for the accompaniments of lightning. Colonel Snelling told Keating of an occasion during the previous autumn when he witnessed and heard the passage of a brilliant meteor at the fort. He claimed to have heard it strike the ground and the sentinel at the commissary's store stated that it fell in the public garden bordering the St.

Peter's River. Snelling's efforts to find the meteor proved unsuccessful as did the subsequent attempts of the Long party.

Keating remarks that to one fond of hunting or fishing residence at Fort St. Anthony would be a pleasure. "Catfish has been caught at the falls," he says, "weighing one hundred and forty-two pounds."

When the party left Fort St. Anthony on July 9, it had recruited that well-known trader and interpreter, Joseph Renville, who took the place of the inefficient Roque. Keating's praise of Renville was as generous and unstinted as his estimate of Roque had been harsh and uncompromising. "We have met with few men," he writes, "that appeared to us to be gifted with a more inquiring and discerning mind, or with more force and penetration than Renville. . . . We found him uniformly faithful, intelligent, and as veracious as any interpreter we ever had in our company." Joseph Snelling, son of the commander at the fort, accompanied the party in the capacity of assistant guide and interpreter. A third interpreter named Louis Pellais also accompanied the expedition. Another gentleman who joined the party at this point was Giacomo C. Beltrami. Beltrami was an Italian lawyer and linguist, at one time an army officer and later a civil judge, who had come to America as a political refugee. He was fired with the ambition to discover the true source of the Mississippi, and shortly after his arrival in America traveled down the Ohio and up the Mississippi to Fort Snelling, where he was when the Long expedition arrived. Upon his request he was permitted to join the expedition, but on August 7 he left the party, then at Pembina, and struck out with a guide and two Chippewa Indians to the southeast, where he believed the Mississippi to have its source. He discovered and named Lake Julia in Beltrami County and erroneously pronounced it the source of the Mississippi. He reached Fort Snelling again on September 15, whence he traveled to New Orleans. Here in 1824 he published an account of his supposed discovery of the source of the Mississippi. His account of the

expedition is much briefer than Keating's and not altogether to be relied upon.³ Long's entry in his diary on the day on which Beltrami left the party is interesting: "Mr. Beltrami our Italian companion, having taken offense at the party, generally, and being highly provoked at my objecting to his turning an indian out of our Lodge, left the party in a very hasty and angry manner."⁴ In the correspondence of the governor's office for the year 1869 is a petition signed by Luigia and Linda Beltrami, nieces of the late explorer, requesting financial aid from the United States or from Minnesota as due the heirs of a man who had done so much for that country and state.⁵

But to return to the main expedition. The party ascended the Minnesota five and one-half miles and then stopped at the Indian village of Black Dog on the right or southern bank. Ascending another mile, they came to a deserted Indian cabin, where they made themselves comfortable for the night. The next day they traveled thirty-five miles up the river. The expedition moved in two divisions, one in canoes, the other on land. The canoe party passed two Indian villages, the first of which, Tetankatane, Keating locates near the present site of Savage in Dakota County and the other about twenty-eight miles farther up the river. The canoe party was to have joined the land party at this latter point, but the land party was misguided and the two divisions were not united until the next morning, at a point farther up the river, near the present site of Shakopee.

By July 14 both divisions reached Traverse des Sioux, which was at that time known as "the Crescent, from a

³ The work published by Beltrami in 1824 was in French; four years later, in 1828, an English version of the narrative was issued in London as volume 2 of *A Pilgrimage in Europe and America Leading to the Discovery of the Sources of the Mississippi and Bloody River, With a Description of the Whole Course of the Former, and of the Ohio.*

⁴ On his expedition Major Long kept a diary, contained in three little brown-covered notebooks. These books are among the choicest possessions of the Minnesota Historical Society. They cover the entire period of the trip and are replete with maps of great value.

⁵ Governor's Archives, file no. 635.

beautiful bend which the river makes at this place." Before 1838, when Joseph N. Nicollet came here, the name had been changed to *Traverse des Sioux*, "the Crossing of the Sioux," on account of the fact that at this point was the crossing of the river on the much-used trail from St. Paul and Fort Snelling to the upper Minnesota and Red River valleys. The canoe party had covered a distance of 130 miles.

With the exception of a few Indians living in isolated villages along the river, there were almost no living creatures in the Minnesota Valley. The "principal defect," writes Keating, "is the want of objects to animate the scenes; no buffalo ranging across the prairie, no deer starting through the forests, no birds interrupting the solemn stillness which uniformly reigns over the country, the St. Peter rolls in silence its waters to the Mississippi. Where game is scarce, the Indian of course finds no inducement to hunt, and hence the party frequently travelled for whole days, without seeing a living object of any kind." Indications were, however, that "this stream was once inhabited by as extensive a population as can be supported by game alone, in the most favoured regions."

On July 15 the party left the *Traverse des Sioux* and journeyed in a southwesterly direction for a distance of nine miles. They were now only a short distance from the Blue Earth River, but circumstances prevented a visit to its banks. Their effort to obtain some of the blue earth from the Indians for the purpose of analysis proved unsuccessful. Le Sueur in the year 1700 had built an establishment on the Blue Earth River and had mined some of the earth, which he believed to be copper ore. The Indians of the region made annual pilgrimages to the Blue Earth to collect quantities of the earth on its banks, from which they made dye and paint.

The party encamped on Swan Lake in Nicollet County, so called from the fact that one species of swan — the trumpeter — formerly found in Minnesota, nested here. The Indian name, according to Keating, signified "the lake of the many

large birds." Beltrami in his narrative remarks somewhat impatiently that they might have done some good shooting here but the major was intent only on his compass. At noon on July 16 they struck the Minnesota River at a point a mile below the mouth of the Cottonwood, where they crossed to the south bank. Soon after they passed two Indian lodges.

The journey across the prairies to the Redwood River was a difficult one. They were at some distance from the river; water and wood were scarce; the heat was intense — ninety-four degrees in the shade; and the mosquitoes were a pest; the men lay with their boots on to protect their feet and legs; even then they passed many sleepless nights, so greatly were they annoyed by these insects.

Beltrami gives the significance of the name "Red Wood." "It is so called from a tree which the savages paint red every year, and for which they have a peculiar veneration. It has nothing remarkable to distinguish it from other trees, but every tribe has its favourite images, though they all represent the same divinity, the same object of worship. . . . In this tree they adore the thunder which, as they think, comes from the Rocky Mountains. . . . This wood is situated on the south bank of the St Peter, and another river [*the Redwood*] which flows into it through the centre of the wood descends from the same point."

As the meaning of the Indian name for the St. Peter's River, "Minnesota" or "Mennesota," is a disputed point, it may be of interest to notice that Long interprets it on his map, not as cloudy or sky-blue water, but as "Troubled water riv." He also explains the origin of the name St. Peter's as applied to the river. He says St. Peter's was "a name supposed to have been corrupted from Sans Pierre, which had formerly been given by the French, to this river from the circumstance that no stones are found in it for a considerable distance from its mouth." ⁶

⁶ The pronunciation of *sans pierre* is like that of *Saint-Pierre*, but it means "without stone," instead of St. Peter, as the latter should be translated.

On the nineteenth the party carried their canoes for a distance of a mile to avoid thirteen rapids in the river, as was the wont of all travelers passing that way, from which circumstance it had for some time been known as Grand Portage. They crossed the Yellow Medicine River, so named by the Indians because of the root of that color which grew in the vicinity, which they believed to have mystical healing properties. Keating records with satisfaction that they encountered some Indians who told them that many buffalo had already been killed on Lake Traverse; these same Indians camped near them that night and treated them to a feast of buffalo meat, in which, however, they were greatly disappointed, regarding it as tough and tasteless. "This disappointment arose, however," Keating remarks, "from the circumstance of its being jerked, instead of fresh meat."

A short day's journey, during which they crossed the Lac qui Parle and Chippewa rivers just above their mouths, brought the party to Lac qui Parle, the French for the original Indian name, "the lake that talks." Keating remarks that they were unable to discern any remarkable echo in this vicinity which might have given rise to the name. Here they noticed a number of graves of a sort much used by the Indians. The corpse was placed in a very shallow grave or on the surface of the ground and a roof of stakes was constructed above it to prevent the attack of wolves, which were very common in the vicinity and which would dig the body up if it were merely buried. In spite of the great strength of the stakes some of the graves had been broken open and their contents scattered.

The party pitched tents on a hill at the lower extremity of Lac qui Parle, where they remained half a day before proceeding to Big Stone Lake. Two young wolves were seen near Beaver Creek, which was the name then given Lac qui Parle River, and were "easily caught by the soldiers, to whom a reward was offered if they would carry them alive to Mackinaw; but they both made their escape during the night."

Keating remarks that "in the dull monotony of a journey across the prairie, destitute of interest, and uninterrupted by any incident, the capture of these wolves created such a sensation in the party as will not be readily conceived by those who have not experienced how eagerly man seizes the first opportunity of being relieved from his own thoughts, when he has been left to the uninterrupted exercise of them for a certain length of time."

At the upper end of the lake they found that the Minnesota had lost all its character as a river; that it was a mere rivulet twenty or thirty feet wide, its waters stagnant and obstructed by the growth of high grass and wild rice. Before reaching Big Stone Lake they observed vast deposits of granite. A very large block had painted upon it, in red, circles, crescents, and crosses, consecrated to the sun, moon, and stars — a primitive altar at which the savage Indian paused to offer his sacrifices to the ruling spirits.

On the twenty-second the party reached Big Stone Lake. At the lower end of the lake was an Indian village consisting of thirty skin lodges, which they visited. It was a temporary camp, the permanent residence of these Indians being on an island directly opposite and a quarter of a mile distant. Here at the Indian camp Long and his men were hospitably entertained; they partook of some fresh buffalo meat, which they relished much more than they had the dried meat of a few days before. Their enjoyment of it was doubtless increased by the fact that it was the first fresh meat they had had since they left Fort Snelling. Before departing, a second meal was prepared for them, and Keating remarks, "We were too familiar with Indian manners, not to know that the excuse of having just eaten a very hearty meal would not be considered as sufficient among them; and so we readily resigned ourselves to the necessity of again testifying our friendly disposition, by doing honour to their meal." It consisted of a white root, similar in appearance to the turnip, which had been boiled down into a sort of mush or hominy. As they were

rising from this second meal they were informed that a third was in process of preparation, this time consisting of the sacred dog meat. But as they were unable to remain until it was finished, they were denied this treat, much to the disappointment of some of the men, who were desirous of tasting the sacred animal.

In the afternoon of the twenty-second they arrived at the American Fur Company's establishment on the western side of the lake, about halfway up the shore. Here they found Hazen Mooers, one of the most romantic figures in the history of the fur trade, who was in charge. Mooers later had charge of the American Fur Company's post at Lake Traverse, and while there he married Gray Cloud, the Indian half-breed for whom Gray Cloud Island in the Mississippi above the city of Hastings was named.

A messenger was sent from the post at Big Stone to that of the Columbia Fur Company farther up on Lake Traverse to announce the approach of the party. This company had been organized only a year before by Joseph Renville and others interested in exploiting the trade of this region, from which the English had been ousted by federal law seven years before. The map accompanying Keating's narrative locates this post on the east side of the lake. According to later writers, it was probably on or near the site of an earlier post of Robert Dickson's, in what is now the northern part of Folsom Township, just opposite Snake Island. It is interesting to note Beltrami's prophecy regarding the Columbia Fur Company: "I think they will be obliged in the end to capitulate with the South-West [*American Fur*] Company, and to put themselves under its protection." Within four years his prophecy was fulfilled; in 1827 the two companies merged.

Long and his party had now fulfilled that part of their instructions which ordered them to ascend the Minnesota to its head. They had yet to proceed to the "intersection between Red River and the forty-ninth degree of north latitude." They were fortunate in having as guides to Pembina one of

the Columbia Fur Company's traders at Lake Traverse and four Frenchmen who were on their return to the settlement at Pembina. Four Red River carts which had previously been used to transport some of the Swiss emigrants from Pembina to Mendota were chartered to convey their baggage and provisions. On the night of July 26 encampment was made on the north extension of Lake Traverse, then known as Buffalo Lake. The next morning as they proceeded down the Red River Valley they came upon herds of thousands of buffalo—the first large aggregations of them they had discovered. They stopped at an Indian lodge where they had a feast of fresh buffalo meat. Here they also had an opportunity to observe how the meat was “jerked.” It was cut up into thin broad slices and exposed on poles all around the lodge. Two days of hot sunlight did the work. Keating also describes the manner of curing the skins:

The green skin is stretched on the ground by means of stakes driven through its edges; then with a piece of bone, sharpened to a cutting edge, about an inch wide, and similar to a chisel, the softer portions on the flesh side are scraped off, and with an instrument of iron similar to the bit of a carpenter's plane, the hair is removed from the outside. If the operation be interrupted here, the product is a sort of parchment; but if the skin be intended for mocassins or clothing, it is then worked with the hands in the brain of animals, which gives it the requisite degree of softness. In order to qualify it for exposure to moisture, the skin is sometimes smoked, but this deprives it of its natural white appearance. . . . Instead of the brains of animals, strong soap-suds could be used in the dressing of the skin, and . . . “young Indian corn, beaten to a pulp, will effect the same as the brains.”

The expedition descended the valley of the Bois des Sioux River, the branch of the Red River which rises in Lake Traverse, down the Red River Valley, crossing the Buffalo, Wild Rice, Marsh, Sand Hill, Red Lake, and Snake rivers, and the Two Rivers, just above their mouths. Marsh River was dry at this time as it often is in times of drought. Red Lake River was reached on August 2. In this vicinity they

experienced considerable distress from the extreme changes in temperature during the nights, a drop from eighty-three to forty-three degrees in a few hours being recorded by Keating.

The settlement at Pembina was reached on August 5. A journey of 256 miles from Lake Traverse had been accomplished in eleven days — an average of twenty-three miles a day. Pembina was the settlement made by Scotch emigrants in 1812. Lord Selkirk, who had acquired an enormous tract of land from the Hudson's Bay Company roughly comprising the province of Manitoba and the northern part of the states of Minnesota and North Dakota, hoped to found a colony for evicted Scotch peasants. The attempt was not a success owing to a number of misfortunes which followed each other in rapid succession, and year after year there was an exodus to the more favorable regions on the Mississippi, at Fort Snelling and below. At the time of Long's visit the settlement consisted of about 350 inhabitants, most of whom were half-breeds, ill-suited by temperament and training to farming; consequently, in spite of the good soil not enough agriculture was being carried on to supply the needs of the settlers, who were, therefore, forced to rely largely upon wild game for food. At the time Long's party arrived most of the settlers were buffalo hunting. "The settlement," says Keating, "was in the greatest need of provisions; fortunately for us, who were likewise destitute, they arrived the next day." The procession returning from the hunt must have presented an interesting sight. It "consisted of one hundred and fifteen carts, each loaded with about eight hundred pounds of the finest buffalo meat; there were three hundred persons, including the women. The number of their horses, some of which were very good, was not under two hundred. Twenty hunters, mounted on their best steeds, rode in abreast; having heard of our arrival, they fired a salute as they passed our camp."

During the stay at Pembina the astronomer located a point on the forty-ninth parallel and there planted a wooden post

to mark the boundary, "G. B." inscribed on the northern face and "U. S." on the southern. All the sixty houses of the settlement, with one exception, were found to be on American soil, a discovery which appeared to be entirely to the satisfaction of the settlers. The instructions of the war department had stipulated that Long was to proceed from Pembina along the international boundary, but he was informed that such a route would be impossible for a mounted party because of the innumerable lagoons and marshes covering the whole of the region. Accordingly the explorers exchanged their mounts for canoes, and with the necessary supplies started out. The homeward journey was made by way of lower Red River, Lake Winnipeg, Winnipeg River, and the chain of lakes and rivers forming the international boundary.

At the falls of Rainy River they met a certain man by the name of Tanner, who had been captured by the Indians as a lad of nine, had lived with them for thirty years and resembled them in every way except complexion. He had just learned of his white relatives and was on his way to them when encountered by Long's party. On September 13 Fort William was reached. This was an important post of the Hudson's Bay Company; it was located only a few miles from Grand Portage on Lake Superior. From this point they skirted the northern shore of the lake, and they reached Sault Ste. Marie on September 29. At Detroit they found to their great disappointment neither the letters nor the funds from the war department which they had expected; as they had left Philadelphia with only five hundred dollars for the exigencies of the trip, they found themselves now in straitened circumstances. Long managed to raise a sufficient sum on his own credit, however, to enable them to resume their journey to Buffalo. At length they reached New York, where the party separated.

THEODORE CHRISTIANSON

DAWSON, MINNESOTA

THE STATE HISTORICAL CONVENTION AT REDWOOD FALLS

On June 21, 1923, an expedition of Minnesotans interested in the history of the state set forth from Fort Snelling and Minneapolis on a tour up the picturesque valley of the Minnesota River. These modern explorers traveled, not in canoes or on horseback — as did Major Stephen H. Long of the United States Army and his followers who one hundred years ago left Fort Snelling on an exploratory journey through the same region — but in powerful motor cars over excellent roads. Whereas Major Long passed through a wilderness, the expedition of 1923 sped through a populous and cultivated region everywhere marked by the transforming hand of the white man's civilization. The destination of this comfortable exploring party was Redwood Falls, where on Friday and Saturday, June 22 and 23, there was held, upon the invitation of the Redwood Falls Commercial Club, the second state historical convention under the auspices of the Minnesota Historical Society.

Two committees were active in making preparations for the meeting. A general committee of the society was appointed to plan for the convention, with Mr. Frederick G. Ingersoll of St. Paul, second vice president of the society, as chairman, and Mr. Theodore C. Blegen, the assistant superintendent, as secretary. The other members of this committee were Mrs. Marshall H. Coolidge, Dr. Guy Stanton Ford, and Mr. N. N. Rönning, of Minneapolis; Miss Mary V. Carney, Mrs. Charles E. Furness, Mr. Gideon S. Ives, and Mr. James M. McConnell, of St. Paul; Mr. Julius H. Barnes, Mr. William E. Culkin, and Mr. William A. McGonagle, of Duluth; Mr. Elmer E. Adams of Fergus Falls; Mr. Herbert A. Baldwin, Dr. William A. Brand, and Mr. Hiram M. Hitchcock, of Redwood Falls; Mr. Thomas Hughes and Judge Lorin Cray

of Mankato; Mr. Fred S. Bell of Winona; Dr. Donald J. Cowling of Northfield; Dr. Oliver M. Dickerson of Moorhead; Mrs. Michael J. Dowling of Olivia; Mr. Burt W. Eaton of Rochester; Mr. Herbert C. Hotaling of Mapleton; Mr. Constant Larson of Alexandria; Mr. Victor E. Lawson of Willmar; Mr. Olai E. Lende of Canby; Mr. William B. Mitchell of St. Cloud; Mr. John J. Mooney of Granite Falls; Mr. J. Anton Ochs of New Ulm; Dr. Conrad Peterson of St. Peter; and Mr. Nathaniel F. Soderberg of Madison. Local arrangements at Redwood Falls were in charge of a committee of which Dr. Brand was chairman, and Mrs. Grace Philbrick, secretary; the other members being Mr. H. M. Aune, Mr. W. S. Brammer, Mrs. C. P. Collins, Mrs. M. A. Ebright, Dr. T. E. Flinn, Mr. Hitchcock, Mrs. H. O. Johnson, Judge A. R. A. Loudon, Mr. A. D. McRae, Mrs. Margaret McRae, and Mrs. Bess M. Wilson.

The arrangements for the tour preceding the convention were made in coöperation with the Sioux Historic Trail Association. The latter organization planned a centenary tour of the old Sioux trail from Fort Snelling to Brown's Valley, where an historical pageant was given on June 23 and 24, and agreed to make a joint tour with the Minnesota Historical Society to Redwood Falls. On the joint committee of the two organizations were Mr. Hitchcock, Miss Grace Kaercher of Ortonville, Mr. Mooney, Mr. Frank Hopkins of Fairfax, Mr. Samuel Y. Gordon of St. Paul, and Mr. Blegen.

The tour began at 8:00 A. M., Thursday, June 21, some cars starting from Fort Snelling and others, including a chartered motor bus which accommodated fifteen passengers, from Minneapolis. All the cars, carrying approximately sixty persons, assembled a short distance from Shakopee and were met by a welcoming delegation from that city. Each member of the party was presented with a copy of an interesting broadside entitled *Shakopee and a Bit of its History*, printed for the occasion by Mr. William F. Duffy, editor of the *Shakopee Argus*. This sheet contained pictures of Thomas A. Holmes,

the "father of Shakopee"; "Chief Shah-kpa-dan," after whom the city was named; the Reverend Samuel W. Pond, the Indian missionary; the first house in Shakopee, which was built by Oliver Faribault; and the Faribault Springs. The visitors were piloted to the Faribault house and springs and stopped for a brief inspection of these picturesque and historically interesting landmarks. As they left Shakopee they were met by the mayor of Jordan, who accompanied them to Jordan and Belle Plaine. A short stop was made at Le Sueur Center, where several places of historic interest were pointed out in an informal talk by Mr. Ora J. Parker.

A large number of people from St. Peter met the tourists at the Traverse des Sioux State Park, where "cold lemonade and a warm welcome," as a newspaper aptly put it, were provided through the courtesy of the St. Peter Association. A short speech of welcome was delivered by Judge Henry Moll of St. Peter and an historical address was given by the Honorable Henry N. Benson, a former state senator. Mr. Benson discussed the circumstances which led to the signing of the famous Indian treaty at Traverse des Sioux on July 23, 1851, and ascribed great significance to that transaction in connection with the advance of white settlement in Minnesota. At the conclusion of this address the visitors were escorted through the city of St. Peter, passing the former homes of seven Minnesota governors.

The visit to Mankato, which was reached shortly after noon, was made memorable by a complimentary luncheon served by the Mankato Society at Sibley Park, a beautiful and restful spot on the outskirts of the city. With Mr. George M. Palmer of Mankato acting as toastmaster, a short program followed, the first speaker being Judge Cray, who chose as his subject the hanging of the thirty-eight condemned Indian prisoners at Mankato on December 26, 1862. As a soldier on guard duty Judge Cray was an eyewitness of the tragic event of 1862, and he was able, therefore, to describe with vivid exactness the circumstances attending it. Mr. Thomas

Hughes then spoke briefly on the attitude of the Mankato community toward the Sioux Indians after 1862, pointing out that, sternly as the Indians were dealt with during the Sioux War, they were given every opportunity later to receive the benefits of the white man's civilization and that many of their descendants have won distinction as loyal and able citizens. Dr. Solon J. Buck, superintendent of the Minnesota Historical Society, then expressed on behalf of the visitors thanks for the enjoyable luncheon and the cordial reception given by the people of Mankato. He commented particularly upon the large amount of local historical interest which was evidenced by the people of the Minnesota Valley with whom the visitors had come in contact.

When the tourists reached New Ulm, at 4:00 p. m., they were met by the Pioneer Brass Band of that city. This organization headed a parade along the principal avenue, past the imposing monument to the defenders of New Ulm during the Sioux War, and up to Turner Hall Park, where the Junior Pioneers and other citizens awaited the visitors. Cooling refreshments were then served and an informal program, originally planned for the park, was held in the convention hall of the Turner Society building. The president of the local commercial club, Mr. T. O. Streissguth, introduced the mayor, Dr. Louis A. Fritsche, who extended a hearty welcome on behalf of the citizens of New Ulm. The city, he explained, was named after the ancient German city of Ulm, the native city of many of the German immigrants who in 1854 laid the foundations of New Ulm. The old German city was designated by the Romans as "Ultra Limitas Militares." The first letters of the Latin words were appropriate, said Dr. Fritsche, not only as applied to the old-world city but also for the city established by German pioneers on the frontier in Minnesota at the limit of military occupation. Responding on behalf of the tourists, Dean Ford of the University of Minnesota thanked the people of New Ulm for their generous welcome and pointed out the desirability of

keeping alive in our memories the deeds and qualities of the pioneers who laid the foundations for a fairer civilization. Dr. Ford suggested that one method of honoring the pioneers was to emulate their spirit as applied to the problems of the present age.

The party then started for the site of Fort Ridgely, the United States military post which was besieged during the Indian war of 1862. Situated on a bluff commanding the valley of the Minnesota River, the site — which since 1911 has been a state park — is one of the most interesting spots in Minnesota. A supper graciously provided by the people of the neighboring city of Fairfax was served at Fort Ridgely to the travelers. A brief talk was then made by Senator Benson, who had accompanied the party from Traverse des Sioux. Mr. Frank Hopkins of Fairfax then addressed the group on the subject of the Sioux War, dealing particularly with the genesis of the outbreak and also describing the most notable events of the war which centered about Fort Ridgely. Every member of the touring party was given a copy of a folder published in 1922 in commemoration of the sixtieth anniversary of the Indian wars, which contains a valuable statement of "Historic Facts Relating to Indian Outbreak of 1862" compiled by Mr. August Hummel with the assistance of Mr. Hugo Roos and Mr. Richard Pfefferle.

After the conclusion of this program the party set out on the last stage of the tour and arrived at Redwood Falls at about 9:00 P. M., where the good will of the community found expression in music by an excellent brass band. The local committee on arrangements, with headquarters at the commercial club, assigned the seventy or more visitors, as they arrived and registered, to various homes throughout the city. Thus the interesting tour, which had been made doubly enjoyable by the generous hospitality of the people throughout the entire valley from Fort Snelling to Redwood Falls, came to a pleasant close.

The sessions of the convention were held at the Redwood Falls Armory. The registration was 162, but it is estimated that at least 100 local people attended one or more of the sessions without registering. Of those who registered 48 were members of the society and 114 were nonmembers; 35 were from Redwood Falls, 33 from Minneapolis, 17 from St. Paul, and the other 77 represented 25 different places. But the popular interest in the tour and in the convention was much more widespread than the attendance indicates. For example, a Minneapolis newspaper sent a special correspondent to the convention whose daily dispatches, appearing on the first page of his newspaper, carried the story of the historical excursion into thousands of homes. It should be added that the traveling exhibit of the Minnesota Historical Society was set up at the armory and attracted considerable attention.

The opening session, which began at 10:00 A. M., on Friday, June 23, was presided over by Dr. Ford. The address of welcome was delivered by Dr. Brand, chairman of the local committee on arrangements, who called attention to the importance and value of history and particularly stressed the significance of the study of history as affording a rational basis for understanding the manifold problems of the present day. Great names occur on the pages of Minnesota history, but in honoring the builders and trail-blazers of the past people must not make of the writing and study of history a form of ancestor worship. The spirit of impartiality and of unswerving truth, he said, must ever motivate the true historian.

In responding to this address Dr. Ford commented on the general enthusiasm for Minnesota history which the people of the Minnesota Valley had shown and pointed out that the intelligent interest of the people as a whole is of the utmost importance for the success of the state historical society's work. This increasing popular interest in history is in part explained by the expanding scope of the historian's work. Wars and public affairs have indeed played important rôles in the past, but, said Dr. Ford, no student may neglect the many

aspects of ordinary life and development, for they are of first importance in helping one to understand the complexities of present-day civilization. An historical convention, by focusing popular interest upon the history of the state, by bringing together students of that history and its problems, and by permitting the reading of papers on various phases of local and state history, gives an impetus generally to historical work and therefore is of great value to the state.

The first paper on the program was presented by Dr. Lester Burrell Shippee of the University of Minnesota, who took as his subject "The Fisk Expeditions to the Gold Country." Dr. Shippee called attention to four expeditions from Minnesota to the present region of Montana which were undertaken during the sixties under the leadership of Captain James L. Fisk. Gold-hunters were eager to go to the newly discovered diggings in the West, and Congress, faced by the economic problems of war and anxious to stimulate the production of gold, agreed to furnish military escorts for the emigrant trains. Captain Fisk, who came to Minnesota in 1850, was instructed by the government to guide northwest emigrant trains in 1862, 1863, and 1864, to the diggings. The speaker pointed out that the Fisk expeditions doubtless are replicas of hundreds of trips made to the West during the period before the railroads penetrated the region and thus they are interesting as types. Many details of the first three expeditions, he said, may be gleaned from the journal kept by the physician of the expeditions, Dr. William D. Dibb, a copy of which is owned by the Minnesota Historical Society.

The first expedition, which crossed the Wild Rice River four miles west of Fort Abercrombie on July 8, 1862, on its way to Fort Benton, was made up of about eighty emigrants and an armed escort of fifty men. The train was of considerable size, for there were 168 oxen, 8 mules, 27 horses, and 17 cows. Some of the emigrants had started from St. Paul or St. Cloud, but at least thirty teams were waiting at Fort Abercrombie when Fisk arrived there. Ignorant of the menace

of an impending Sioux Outbreak, the expedition set forth on what proved to be an uneventful journey. After guiding the train safely to Fort Benton Fisk pushed on to Walla Walla, Portland, and San Francisco, and returned to St. Paul by way of Panama and New York.

At the conclusion of the expedition of 1863 Fisk sold his equipment at Bannock City and Virginia and returned by way of a weekly "express" to Salt Lake, where a connection was made with Ben Holladay's Overland Stage Line. The rendezvous for 1864, said Dr. Shippee, was Minneapolis and the real starting point Fort Ridgely, Fisk's plan being to follow as nearly as possible the forty-fifth parallel and to pass through the Black Hills. Because of Indian difficulties the expedition got no farther than Fort Rice, a point some distance south of the site of the present city of Bismarck, North Dakota, and on October 21 Dr. Dibb made the following entry in his diary: "Members of the party begin to make their final preparations, some to remain, some to return by river, some with the 8th Iowa and Brackett's battalion by land. I go down the river in the flatboat with the 30th Wisconsin, as far as Sioux City, then cross over to Mankato by team, and home by stage." ¹

An attempt to organize an expedition in 1865 failed, but in 1866 a private expedition under the leadership of Captain Fisk was undertaken. The emigrants of 1866, unlike those of the previous years, said Dr. Shippee, were not gold-seekers or home-seekers, but men interested in the mining country as a field for commercial enterprise. As an illustration the speaker cited the case of two brothers who took five hundred sacks of flour with them to be sold in Helena.

Captain Fred A. Bill of St. Paul then presented a paper entitled "Navigation on the Red River of the North, 1858-1879." The speaker began with a somewhat detailed résumé of the history of transportation on Minnesota's north-

¹For an explanation of the story of a lost "mountain of gold," to which the speaker referred, see *ante*, p. 225.

ernmost navigable stream. In making this survey Captain Bill harked back to the days of Lord Selkirk's Red River settlement — to the winter of 1819-20, when a little group of Canadian pioneers from Lower Fort Garry inaugurated traffic on the Red River. They made the long journey up the Red River and down the Minnesota and Mississippi to Prairie du Chien to purchase seed grain, and returned with their cargo over the same route in the spring.

Steamboat traffic on the Red River was not thought of seriously, said the speaker, until 1857, when Captain Russell Blakeley "made a tour of investigation of the river and returned with a report that steam navigation for several months in the year was practicable. The [*St. Paul*] Chamber of Commerce immediately offered a bonus of \$1,000 to any one who would put a boat on Red River ready for operation the following spring." Anson Northup agreed to do this if the sum were doubled, and his offer was accepted. In the dead of a severe winter he transported timber, machinery, men, and supplies to the banks of the river and within six weeks the boat, which was named the "Anson Northup," was completed. On May 17, 1858, the first steamboat on the Red River left Fort Abercrombie and on June 5 it arrived with a cargo at Fort Garry. The "Anson Northup" was used again in 1859 and 1860.

Captain Bill then went on to narrate the histories of other early steamboats on the Red River. Such important names in Minnesota history as those of Norman W. Kittson and James J. Hill figured prominently in his tale. Although the boats were a factor in transporting settlers to various parts of the Red River Valley, they were used for the most part in carrying freight to Winnipeg. Captain Bill explained that during the early years freight was hauled from St. Paul to various points on the river by team, but in the seventies the railroad replaced this primitive means of transportation. Finally in "1879 the Canadian Pacific completed its line between Winnipeg and St. Vincent and the death knell of steamboating

on Red River was rung." At this point the speaker appropriately presented a "List of Steamers on the Red River" and a partial roster of the captains, clerks, mates, pilots, engineers, and stewards who operated these boats.

The second portion of Captain Bill's paper was devoted to his personal observations of the Red River. His "first job away from home" and the Mississippi was that of clerk on the "Dakota" in 1872. The boat was new, the river was extremely low, and fuel was scarce; consequently, the maiden trip of the "Dakota," from Breckenridge to Moorhead, occupied eight days, a journey now easily covered by train in one and a half hours. Traveling at such a rate naturally gave time for minute observation of the settlements along the bank, and Captain Bill evidently did not allow the opportunity to pass, for he pictured in detail the tiny towns and stations, some of which are today mere names, which he saw on his first trip and later on more extensive journeys. McCauleyville, Ole Thompson's stage station, Holy Cross Post Office, Moorhead, Fargo, Georgetown, Frog Point, Grand Forks, Turtle River, Pembina on the international boundary, the Canadian parishes of St. Norbert, St. Vital, and St. Boniface, and finally Fort Garry and Winnipeg are among the pioneer communities described. Captain Bill told also of an "exploring expedition" up the Red Lake River from Grand Forks to the "then un-named place now the thriving city of Crookston," which was undertaken by the "Dakota" in September, 1872. The railroad had just been extended to the latter point and the speaker stated that his boat soon was "doing commercial business on that stream instead of using Red river above Grand Forks."

The last section of Captain Bill's paper was devoted to "Some Personal Recollections." These included stories of the speaker's experiences with customs officials, an account of the "Second Agricultural Exhibition of Manitoba" at Winnipeg, and a number of incidents illustrative of the "crookedness" of the Red and the Red Lake rivers. Fort

Garry was the northern destination of the "Dakota" and most of her cargo was bound for the warehouses of the Hudson's Bay Company at that place. After the season of 1872 Captain Bill left the Red River and he did not revisit its towns and cities again for thirty-eight years. He presented an interesting contrast between the "Canadian Chicago" of 1872 and that of 1910. The speaker concluded his narrative with an account of the "last boat to cross the international boundary" on the Red River — the "Grand Forks," which left the city of that name on June 6, 1909, arrived at Winnipeg the following evening, and three days later brought back the "prominent citizens and business men of Grand Forks" who had gone on the excursion.

After the morning session about 150 persons attended an informal luncheon which was served in the dining hall of the Church of St. Catharine. This luncheon was followed by a discussion of plans for the organization of a Redwood County Historical Society. The toastmaster, Mr. Baldwin of Redwood Falls, first introduced Dr. Buck, who pointed out the contrast between the eastern states, where the study of local history is cultivated intensively, and western states, such as Minnesota, where there has been as yet comparatively little organization of local history activity. The speaker asserted, however, that a new day is dawning in the West, and that Minnesotans in particular are becoming conscious of the fact that it is profoundly important for them to understand the past of their own local communities. They realize, moreover, he said, that if they are to care for their local historical interests in an adequate manner, they must organize. Attention was directed by the speaker to the recent organization of the St. Louis County Historical Society and the nature of its affiliation with the Minnesota Historical Society. In Dr. Buck's opinion a close connection between the local and central organizations would prove of great mutual benefit. That the chances for developing local history activity are excellent is indicated, he said, by the recent act of the legislature authorizing one

county to appropriate money for the support of a county historical society.² Dr. Buck closed his remarks by reading parts of a proposed constitution for a county historical society.³

The Redwood County agricultural agent, Mr. Lynn Sheldon, who spoke next, declared that the county farm bureau was greatly interested in the matter of organizing local history activity and that its members would welcome the draft of a constitution which the preceding speaker had presented. Among the farmers, said Mr. Sheldon, there is much interest in historic places and in the preservation of historic objects. A local museum, he indicated, would be appreciated by many farmers who had valuable historical objects in their possession. Mr. Sheldon closed by advocating a broader conception of history which will give a place of importance, for example, to the story of agricultural implements and their relation to the general history of the region.

Mrs. Dowling was then introduced and spoke briefly on the heritage of the pioneers and the value to be derived from studying the remains and documents which throw light upon their struggles and their hardships. In Mrs. Dowling's opinion branches of the Minnesota Historical Society should be organized in the counties and should coöperate actively in assembling the records of Minnesota's past. Mrs. Wilson, the editor of the *Redwood Gazette*, then voiced the welcome of the community to the visitors and heartily indorsed the idea of a Redwood County historical society.

Congressman Frank Clague of Redwood Falls, the last speaker at the conference, spoke of the enthusiasm and careful planning which resulted in the erection of the Minnesota Historical Building, and emphasized especially the importance both for the local community and for the state of gathering up historical materials for permanent preservation, pointing out that unique papers are easily lost and, once destroyed, can

² See *ante*, p. 158.

³ The draft of this constitution is printed *ante*, 4: 252-256.

never be replaced. The chairman, Mr. Baldwin, was then authorized by vote of the conference to appoint a committee to take under advisement the question of organization of history activity in Redwood County.

After the luncheon conference, the delegates returned to the armory for the afternoon session, which began at 2:30 P. M. Mrs. Dowling presided at this session and first introduced Mr. Franklin F. Holbrook, secretary of the Minnesota War Records Commission, who read a paper on "Minnesota's Contribution to the Spanish-American War." The outbreak of the Spanish War, which occurred twenty-five years ago in April, found Minnesota prepared to do her share, said Mr. Holbrook. The national guard had been recruited to war strength and volunteer companies had been organized in cities and towns throughout the state. In response to the president's call for volunteers the three infantry regiments of the Minnesota National Guard, soon to be known as the Twelfth, Thirteenth, and Fourteenth Minnesota volunteer infantries, assembled at Camp Ramsey for examination, training, and muster. So promptly were these regiments mobilized that Minnesota achieved the distinction of being the first state in the Union to have its full quota of regiments under the first call mustered into the volunteer army. Later, in midsummer, a fourth regiment was organized and mustered in under the president's second call as the Fifteenth Minnesota Volunteer Infantry.

The speaker said that the history of three of the Minnesota regiments is a story of long weeks and months spent in various camps in the United States — of drills, parades, inspections, and sham battles; of the ravages of disease; of bouts with boredom; and of vain longing for active service at the front. The more fortunate Thirteenth won distinction in the Philippines at the battle of Manila and in the first campaigns against the insurgent Filipinos. A very considerable number of Minnesotans, the speaker stated, served in various outside organizations; in fact, whereas 5,300 served in the state's own

regiments, it appears that Minnesota furnished a total of approximately 8,500 men during the war and the insurrection, and of these 266 lost their lives in the service.

The people at home also contributed to the successful prosecution of the war, according to Mr. Holbrook. The payment of numerous special war taxes of course was not a matter of choice with the individual, but it was usually made without complaint. Large numbers of citizens undoubtedly subscribed to the so-called "popular loan," floated by the government in the summer of 1898. More conspicuously, the people of the state contributed to the welfare of their fighting men through such welfare organizations as the Red Cross and the Y. M. C. A.

Mr. Holbrook concluded by discussing the work of two Minnesotans who figured prominently in the diplomacy of the period. When it was still a question whether there should be war or peace with Spain, Cushman K. Davis, senior senator from Minnesota and chairman of the Senate foreign relations committee, led the war party in Congress, and Archbishop Ireland, as an emissary of the Pope, labored at Washington in the interest of peace. When the war ended, Senator Davis was appointed one of the commissioners to negotiate the peace, and as such he was largely instrumental in securing the Philippines from Spain. Mr. Holbrook's paper was based upon his newly published *Minnesota in the Spanish-American War and the Philippine Insurrection*, which was reviewed in the last number of the BULLETIN.

The second paper, by Mr. Willoughby M. Babcock, Jr., curator of the Minnesota Historical Society's museum, dealt with an important phase of early Minnesota history, "Lawrence Taliaferro and Indian Affairs at the St. Peter's Agency, 1820-1840." This paper was based upon a careful study of the valuable Taliaferro Papers in the manuscript division of the historical society, supplemented by other contemporary records. The speaker began by pointing out that the acquisition of Louisiana in 1803 and the War of 1812 brought for-

ward the problem of American military control of the Northwest with its savage Indians and scarcely less unruly fur-traders. This difficult problem the government attempted to solve by the establishment of Fort St. Anthony, later called Fort Snelling, in the fall of 1819 and by the appointment of Lawrence Taliaferro of Virginia to the newly created Indian agency for the upper Mississippi tribes at the mouth of the St. Peter's or Minnesota River.

Mr. Babcock said that Taliaferro's work for the next twenty years — he was reappointed for his sixth successive term in the spring of 1839 — presents two main aspects: that relating to the handling of intertribal relations and the maintenance of peace, and that concerning the relations between the Indians and the whites, both governmental and private. The laws regulating the relations between the Indians and the whites were strict and the agent had his hands full in forcing the traders to obey them. Even Colonel Leavenworth, who was in command of the Fifth United States Infantry at Camp Coldwater in the summer of 1820, had to be warned against the distribution of whisky, which "entails misery upon the Indians, and endangers their lives as well as those of their own people." There were lumbermen, said the speaker, who were too anxious to cut the timber in the virgin forests of the St. Croix Valley to wait until these lands were opened up by treaty, and fur-traders who used smuggled whisky as a means of driving good bargains with the natives. On several occasions, said Mr. Babcock, the troops at Fort Snelling had to be ordered out to drive these lawbreakers from the Indian country.

The treaties of 1837 created new problems for the agent, for the whites swarmed into the newly opened country and there were large payments of money and goods to be made as annuities. Furthermore, the government failed to recognize the necessity of delivering annuity goods on time to the Indians of this remote region and it was the unpleasant business of the agent to make excuses and new promises while the Indians

starved. One pitiful letter from Taliaferro notes the fact that 870 starving Sioux were waiting that day at the agency for their goods, long past due, and he had not even a single plug of tobacco to give them, not to speak of provisions.

Keeping the peace between Sioux and Chippewa was an almost impossible task and numerous encounters, some near Fort Snelling, disturbed the quiet of the district. Vigorous action by the agent and the commander of the fort on one occasion in 1827, however, when several Sioux murderers were handed over to the injured Chippewa for execution, impressed the Indians. Frequent peace councils, visits of composite delegations to Washington, and repressive measures on the part of the agent also played their part, said Mr. Babcock, in checking hostilities between the two inveterate enemies.

But the strain upon the agent finally became too great, and in the fall of 1839 Taliaferro retired, broken in health. "He had fought a good fight against heavy odds, with limited resources," said Mr. Babcock in conclusion. "He had wielded the vast powers intrusted to him justly and fearlessly, and he had exhibited a feeling for and an understanding of the Indian and his problems which few men have shown."

The final paper of the afternoon program was presented by Miss Livia Appel, research assistant of the Minnesota Historical Society, on the subject of "Territorial Encouragement of Immigration." Miss Appel's paper was a compact and interesting summary of the Minnesota activities to attract settlers which are described in the collection of documents printed, with an introduction and notes, in the last number of the BULLETIN.

Before the adjournment of this session, a telegram signed by the superintendent of the State Historical Society of Iowa, was placed before the convention:

Greetings from the State Historical Society of Iowa to the State Historical Convention at Redwood Falls, Minnesota. The coöperation of the state historical society and local communities

in the promotion of a wider interest in state and local history is worthy of emulation throughout the Mississippi Valley.

BENJ. F. SHAMBAUGH

At the conclusion of the session cars were placed at the disposal of the visitors for a tour of Ramsey State Park and other points of interest near Redwood Falls. The park, which is named in honor of Governor Alexander Ramsey, is located at the junction of Ramsey Creek and the Redwood River and has been described as "a Yellowstone in miniature with its winding streams, beautiful falls, deep gorges, glistening rapids, picturesque rock cliffs and pretty groves." Some of the delegates, after a trip through this charming park, returned to Redwood Falls; others, however, were piloted to some of the most interesting places connected with events of the Sioux Outbreak. Thus a number of the visitors were driven to see the splendid monument erected in commemoration of the bloody battle of Birch Coulie.

At 7:00 P. M. the annual meeting of the Sioux Historic Trail Association was held at the armory. The new officers elected by that organization were Mr. Gordon, president, Mr. Mooney, vice president, and Miss Kaercher, secretary and treasurer. The presiding officer at this meeting was Mr. Mooney, the retiring president, who spoke briefly on the meaning of the Sioux Historic Trail and emphasized the importance of perpetuating the trail. Dr. Warren Upham, archeologist of the Minnesota Historical Society, was called upon to discuss the "Scenery and Geology of the Sioux Historic Trail, and Proposed Monuments for Old Lac qui Parle and Brown's Valley." After describing briefly the trail, which covers about 450 miles from St. Paul to Pembina, Dr. Upham recommended the adequate marking of the site of the old Lac qui Parle mission and the erection of a monument at Brown's Valley in honor of Gabriel Renville, "whose counsels and influence, with others friendly to the white captives in the Sioux War of 1862, led to their being set free at Camp Release." A short talk also was made at this meeting by the

Reverend Maurice D. Edwards of St. Paul. In telling of the missionary activities of the Pond brothers, of Dr. Riggs, and of Dr. Williamson the speaker introduced the element of personal reminiscence, which made the speech one of especial interest to the audience.

The presiding officer for the last session of the day, which was held at 8:00 P. M., was Mr. John H. Riheldaffer of Minneapolis. He first introduced the Honorable Theodore Christianson of Dawson, whose paper on "The Long and Beltrami Explorations in Minnesota One Hundred Years Ago" awakened great interest among the auditors. Owing to the unavoidable absence of Dr. William W. Folwell, his paper on "The Causes of the Sioux War" was read by Dr. Buck. Dr. Folwell's paper began by rejecting the view of Senator Rice that the "machinations of secessionist emissaries" were responsible for the outbreak. Nor will the short explanation of the Reverend Stephen R. Riggs, namely that the Sioux were "instigated by the devil," satisfy the inquirer. In fact it is not necessary "to import any extraneous fundamental origin of the outbreak and its atrocities," for that may be found, according to Dr. Folwell, in that universal passion of human nature, anger. "The Dakota Indians were human beings who had never been subjected to a government of law and who found their remedy for injuries in rapine and murder." It was pointed out that more than twice as many murders were committed in the New York draft riots by infuriated white men than by the Indian savages during the frontier outbreak.

The various causes which led to the war were then enumerated and explained. Dr. Folwell first analyzed the traditional Indian policy of the United States government and asserted that it "was calculated to invite outbreaks of passion and revenge." He then discussed the question of the Indian land cessions and the rankling feeling of the Sioux that they had been cheated and deluded. Particular attention was given to the treaties of 1858 ceding nearly a million acres on the north bank of the Minnesota. After three years of waiting the

Sioux found their lands gone and the proceeds largely absorbed by traders. Dr. Folwell then described the scheme of Indian civilization of Joseph R. Brown who in October, 1857, assumed the duties of Sioux agent. The retirement of Major Brown in 1861, caused by "the exigencies of party politics," was characterized by Dr. Folwell as a calamity for the Sioux nation and for the United States.

Brown's successor, Thomas J. Galbraith, soon encountered difficulties. The blanket Indians ridiculed and tormented those who were adopting the white man's ways. The failure of the government to keep a strong force of cavalry at Yellow Medicine and to demonstrate the government's might to the Sioux tribes was a great mistake, in Dr. Folwell's opinion. The failure of the whites to capture and punish Inkpaduta after the massacre of 1857 greatly lowered the prestige of the government. The Sioux were a proud nation, possessing genuine *esprit de corps*. The concentration of Indians had long been the slogan of those who were friendly to the Indians, but Dr. Folwell pointed out that "the concentration of wild Indians could work nothing but mischief and ruin." Furthermore, the Minnesota reservations were not isolated. "An hour's walk brought the Indian to the edge of his country, to meet his deadliest foe, the white man and his whisky jug."

After thus dealing with the predisposing causes which aggravated the ancient hostility of the Sioux tribes, Dr. Folwell turned to "the immediate causes of exasperation," first explaining the difficulties connected with the distribution of annuity goods and cash annuities which led to an Indian demonstration on August 4, 1862, at Yellow Medicine. The Sioux had an additional ground for dissatisfaction, according to Dr. Folwell, in "the custom for deductions to be made from cash annuities to reimburse white people who had suffered losses of property by depredations of individual Indians." A particularly large reduction in 1861 had fanned ill feeling. The lower Sioux were kept waiting for payment and tried to

get on credit the food which they sorely needed. At the Redwood agency about the middle of August, 1862, the keepers of the stores refused credit and thus greatly antagonized Chief Little Crow and his friends.

Although Conferedate emissaries had nothing to do with the Outbreak, Dr. Folwell indicated that not a few of the traders were Copperheads and deluded the Indians with false reports regarding the war. He pointed out that the money payment was delayed owing to tardy Congressional action and the situation in the treasury. When, on August 18, a keg of gold reached Fort Ridgely, the Indian war already had begun. Dr. Folwell's paper concluded by telling of the Acton murders and of the probable Indian council at which the final decision of the aroused Sioux to go on the war path was reached. The paper is to be published as one chapter in the forthcoming second volume of the author's *History of Minnesota*.

The chairman of the committee on resolutions, Dr. Clarence W. Rife, Jr., of Hamline University, St. Paul, then presented the following resolutions, which were adopted by the unanimous vote of the convention:

WHEREAS, The people of Redwood Falls have opened wide the gates of their hospitality, have given to the visitors to the State Historical Convention unstintingly of their time and energies, and have done all in their power to make the convention a great success, — therefore, be it

RESOLVED, That the participants in the convention extend their cordial appreciation and sincere thanks to the people of Redwood Falls for their generous hospitality; to the commercial club for its kind invitation to the Minnesota Historical Society to hold its summer meeting in this city; to Dr. Brand and the local committee on arrangements for the patient work and the fine enthusiasm with which they have planned for the entertainment of the visitors; to those who have put their cars at the service of the convention guests and made it possible for them to view the beauties of Ramsey State Park and to see the points of historic interest in the neighborhood, to the people who have opened their homes to accommodate the convention members; and finally

to all who have contributed, either as participants in the programs or as dispensers of hospitality, to make the convention an enjoyable and successful event long to be remembered.

On Saturday morning, June 23, the Sioux Historic Trail Association resumed the automobile tour to Brown's Valley, by way of Granite Falls, Montevideo, and Ortonville. A Saturday morning tour to a number of places of historic interest near Redwood Falls had been planned for the benefit of those who were unable to go on to Brown's Valley and who on the previous day had made only the short trip through Alexander Ramsey State Park. The inclemency of the weather, however, prevented the execution of this plan and, instead, the homeward journey was begun, the majority of the cars following the most direct route from Redwood Falls to Minneapolis.

Those who made the trip and participated in the sessions felt amply repaid for the effort. That the tour and the convention did much to stimulate historical interest, not only among the residents of the Minnesota Valley, but generally among the people of the state, is certain. Where the third state historical convention, in the summer of 1924, will be held is not yet known. But it is certain that the society, in view of the success of the Duluth and the Redwood Falls meetings, will fare forth again next summer to some part of the state, and that cordial interest will be shown in the cause represented by the institution, the preservation of the records of Minnesota history and the dissemination of knowledge of that history among the people.

NOTES AND DOCUMENTS

IMPRESSIONS OF MINNESOTA IN 1849

The document printed below is a letter written by a visitor to St. Paul in the summer of 1849 in which are recorded his impressions of Minnesota after spending four weeks in the region "looking at town and country, and making observation on men and things." The letter was printed in an Ohio newspaper, the *Eaton Register* for August 30, 1849. Not long ago a copy of this number was loaned to the Minnesota Historical Society by Mr. E. A. Kees of Beulah, North Dakota.

The letter, signed by the unknown "C.," is not without considerable intrinsic interest, but it is presented to the readers of the *BULLETIN* principally because it typifies hundreds of reports which were sent out from the little frontier community to interested friends and relatives in the East. Some of these letters, like the one here printed, found their way into the columns of newspapers; many others were never printed and probably most of these manuscripts have been destroyed. The Minnesota Historical Society is endeavoring to find and to add to its collection of source materials letters which, whether preserved in newspapers or in their original manuscript form, have escaped the ravages of time. Obviously a considerable collection of documents of this kind would be of great value to the student who desires to picture accurately the rapidly changing conditions of life during the early pioneer period in Minnesota.

THEODORE C. BLEGEN

C. TO THE EATON REGISTER, July, 22, 1849

ST. PAUL, July 22, 1849.

GENTLEMEN:— I promised you a letter from this far off region, so here it is. I have spent about four weeks in Minnesota looking at town and country, and making observation on men and

things. First, of St. Paul:— This place is situated on the east, or rather north side of the Mississippi — on a bluff bank which rises about one hundred feet above the level of the water in the stream. The site of the town is a beautiful plain surrounded with hills which are covered with here and there a scrubby oak, which gives them very much the appearance of old orchards. The population at present is about 1200. The town is entirely new; two thirds of the houses have been built this year.¹ They have sprung up, as it were, by magic, or it looks as though Aladin was here with his wonderful lamp. Although the town has thus sprung up, it is not like Solomon's temple, for the sound of many hammers are constantly heard. In St. Paul are two good hotels, one near what is termed the lower, and the other at the upper landing, distant from each other about half a mile. Those two points are the only two places where the bluff can be ascended with wagons. We have any quantity of commission houses, stores, groceries, &c. Then we have bowling saloons, billiard rooms, and all that — gaming is quite prevalent. — A good school is kept here, and we have various ministers — a Catholic, Presbyterian, Baptist, Methodist; one of each resides here — besides an Episcopalian who has service here every Sunday afternoon. The Catholics are the only denomination who has a Church; a rude log one with a wooden cross at one end, and a hall at the other. Services in this are in the French language. There are not very many professors in this place. We have here three printing establishments. The Pioneer by a Mr. Goodhue, which has lived for 3 months. In politics, this is a nondescript. They are "good Lord good Devil," not knowing whose hands they may fall in. — It has professed neutrally, but is in favor with the Democrats, and should they have a majority in the Legislature, it will be Loco. Next comes the "Chronicle," which has attained to the 8th number. — This is a Whig Journal, edited by Col. Hughes,

¹ The population of St. Paul, according to the enumeration taken by John Morgan in the summer of 1849 and submitted on July 4, was 910. William W. Folwell, *A History of Minnesota*, 1: 352 (St. Paul, 1921). For an interesting account of the rapid growth of the town see the same work, 1: 250.

formerly of Ohio. Then comes the "Register," 8 weeks old. Our friend J. P. Owens is conductor of this, and you well know it is Whig. It is due to say that none of the papers have assumed a party character. But one of these establishments can live; which they will be I cannot tell.²

I have travelled some around the country, and find it rather rough and broken — the soil is not very fertile, only second rate. The country is beautiful, abounds with first rate water, springs and brooks — pure crystal streams — affording plenty of water power. The country is evidently healthy — we have plenty of stone and enough of wood for fuel. For fencing they must rely on pruenes [*pinus*?] and tamarac swamps. There are extensive regions of both, north of us. This does not promise to be a great farming country until a Sioux Treaty shall be made, and the lands on the west side of the river are acquired. At present, the good farming region is limited to an inconsiderable area. By reference to the map you will see that the St. Croix lake and Mississippi river cut the country into the form of a triangle. Let a line be drawn beginning about 8 miles above St. Anthony's Fall and running east to the St. Croix, and the triangle lying below that line embraces nearly all the good land to which the Indian title is extinguished. Across this is about 25 miles and the depth of 30 miles. Deduct about one half this for lakes, swamps, marshes, and sandhills, and the balance is the area of arable land now in market. The most desirable portions of this is claimed. West of the Miss., and south of St. Peters river, extending west to the Missouri, is a large domain of the finest country in the world. This the Indians are desirous of selling, and it will be purchased soon. Then Minnesota will be a country worthy of public attention.

² James M. Goodhue issued the first number of the *Minnesota Pioneer* on April 28, 1849. The *Minnesota Chronicle*, which first appeared on May 31, 1849, was edited by James Hughes; and John P. Owens was the editor of the *Minnesota Register*, which was first issued in Cincinnati, Ohio, on April 27, 1849. The first Minnesota issue appeared on July 14, 1849. The two latter newspapers were combined and on August 25, 1849, the first number of the *Chronicle and Register* was printed. Daniel S. B. Johnston, "Minnesota Journalism in the Territorial Period," in *Minnesota Historical Collections*, 10: 247, 253-256 (part 1).

In this region we have several thriving villages; the principal are Stillwater and St. Anthony. Stillwater is situated at the head of Lake St. Croix, 25 miles from the Mississippi. It has about 600 inhabitants and is principally sustained by the lumber business which is done up the St. Croix river. It is a pleasant thriving place, 18 miles east of this. St. Anthony has about 300 population, is nine miles west of this at the Fall.³ It is pleasantly situated, and the immense water power will tend to build it up. Quite a number of people reside around Fort Snelling, a strong fort 6 miles above here in the fork at the confluence of the Miss. and St. Peters rivers. St. Peters is a navigable stream — a considerable trade is carried on up this river. Immediately below the mouth of St. Peters is the town of Hon. H. H. Sibley, delegate to Congress from this territory — it is the establishment of the American Fur Company, and is now called Mendota; it is improving some. This place was settled about 30 years ago, about the same time that Fort Snelling was established. — The lumber business and Indian trade is the main business of the country. Lumbering business amounts to about \$200,000 per year — Indian annuities are very heavy. The amount of goods imported into this country, amounts to about \$600,000 per annum. White and half-white population of the territory about 5,000.

The election for the first Legislative Assembly will come off on the 1st day of August. The aspirants are now busy electioneering — nine Councilmen and 18 delegates compose the first assembly. I think it will be democratic.⁴ The French here will be Loco, and what the Dutch are in Ohio, these ignorant wretches will be here, — tools in the hands of Loco demagogues. We have more little great men here than any place I ever saw. We have more fence men — trade politicians — who are in the market at the highest bidder. Then we have quite a number of pseudo-sages, who think it wise to observe a neutral position. Sibley

³ The census of 1849 credited Stillwater with 609 inhabitants and St. Anthony with 248. Folwell, *Minnesota*, 1: 352.

⁴ No political party was organized in Minnesota before the first territorial legislature convened. The first "Democratic mass convention," which Dr. Folwell terms "the beginning of party organization in Minnesota," occurred on October 20, 1849. *Minnesota*, 1: 369.

is the leader of that genus. They say, that as Congress will be Loco in one branch and Whig in the other, that the best position of the territory is to remain neutral. If Congress will not grant the territory its rights because of its politics, then they had better go home, for the Lord is done with them. I have much more that I would like to write, but my limits forbid. Things are dull — we have had very hot weather and plenty of musquitoes.

With my best wishes for the good people of Eaton, and a hope that I may see you all again.

C.

THE INFORMATION BUREAU

GEORGE W. NORTHRUP

May I take the liberty to ask you to inform me in regard to any facts or relics you may have concerning the life of George W. Northrup, an early scout of frontier life? I am his great-niece and am attempting to gather the facts of his life.

MRS. THERESA E. MACEWAN, La Fayette, New York

George W. Northrup was born in central New York in 1837. When he was fifteen years old his father died and Northrup came west to St. Paul. He decided upon the life of a frontiersman and for three years he traded with the Yankton Sioux. During this period he obtained a thorough knowledge of their language and customs and of the country in which they lived.

When he was but eighteen years of age Northrup gained fame as the result of an attempt to follow westward the trail covered by Governor Isaac I. Stevens' party in surveying a route for a Pacific railroad. The young adventurer's only companion was a dog and all his supplies were packed in a handcart. When the contents of the cart were stolen, however, he was forced to abandon his ambitious scheme, and with great difficulty he worked his way back to the trading post at Big Stone Lake. The story of this escapade is said to have been published in newspapers throughout the country, notably in the *New York Tribune*. In *Harper's New Monthly Magazine* for February, 1894, it is told by Edward Eggleston in a sketch of Northrup's life entitled "The Man-that-Draws-the-Handcart." The greater part of this article is reprinted in the *St. Paul Pioneer Press* for February 4, 1894.

Northrup was a familiar figure in the Red River Valley during the late fifties and the early sixties. Captain Russell Blakeley mentions him in his article on the "Opening of the Red River of the North to Commerce and Civilization," in the *Minnesota Historical Collections*, 8: 52, 53, 57. North-

rup was the captain of a flatboat, "the first passenger boat on Red river," which carried a number of travelers down that stream from Fort Abercrombie to Fort Garry in 1858. Englishmen who came to the region to hunt buffalo found in him an experienced and efficient guide. In 1860, with William Tarbell, he carried the mail between Fort Abercrombie and Pembina, using Red River carts in summer and dog trains in winter.

With the outbreak of the Civil War Northrup enlisted in Brackett's Battalion of Cavalry, Minnesota Volunteers. He saw service in the South and in 1864 he went west with the battalion when it joined the Sully expedition against the Indians. The *St. Paul Press* made him its correspondent and his reports of the expedition's westward march appear over the name "Icimani" in the issues of that paper for May 11 and 29, June 2 and 7, July 17, and August 6, 1864. It was left for others, however, to furnish the stories of the battles in which Brackett's Battalion participated, for Northrup fell in the first encounter with the Indians near Tahpahokutah, Missouri, on July 28. Major Alfred B. Brackett's official report of the battle, published in *Minnesota in the Civil and Indian Wars, 1861-1865*, 2:535 (St. Paul, 1893), contains the following statement: "In the charge Sergt. George W. Northrup, of Company C, fell, after receiving eight or ten wounds, one of which pierced him through the heart." Reports of the battle furnished by other correspondents appear in the *Press* for September 6 and 7, 1864.

B. L. H.

REVIEWS OF BOOKS

War Diary. By GEORGE E. LEACH, Colonel 151st Field Artillery, Rainbow Division. (Minneapolis, 1923. 205 p. Illustrations.)

Of the vast literature relating to the World War which has been published during the past few years, memoirs, reminiscences, and diaries have formed no inconsiderable part. The volume of this material which is still issuing from the press shows no sign of diminishing. It is extremely fortunate that the generation which fought the World War has shown a sufficient degree of historical-mindedness to preserve such records in permanent form before they are lost or destroyed through carelessness or neglect. The narratives and diaries which were the first to appear were devoted almost entirely to the personal, intimate experiences of the writers, who were in many instances enlisted men or officers of the lower grades. Since they knew little of the broader aspects of military operations, these writers focused their attention upon the details of the soldier's daily life. Following the cessation of hostilities, on the other hand, the world was flooded with the reminiscences of persons of high military or official rank who sought an opportunity to justify themselves and their actions before the bar of history. These accounts deal almost exclusively with the broader military, political, and diplomatic aspects of the war. One is impressed by the fact that there have been relatively few personal narratives emanating from military officers of the middle ranks, that is from battalion, regimental, and brigade commanders. There has been little to throw light upon the part played by these men, their duties and their responsibilities, their cares and their triumphs. The *Diary* which is the subject of the present review is of unusual value and interest because it does this very thing. It is a record of the experiences of a regimental commander, one of that group of American officers upon whose devotion to duty and efficiency so much of the success of our arms depended.

Colonel George E. Leach commanded the 151st United States Field Artillery, of the Rainbow Division, throughout the entire period of its service in the World War. As an officer of the national guard he had previously commanded the First Minnesota Field Artillery, which was reorganized as the 151st after the outbreak of hostilities. The distinguished service of the Forty-second, or Rainbow, Division is widely known, and it was a high tribute to the officers and men of the First Minnesota that they should have been designated to constitute a part of the organization. The Rainbow Division, including the 151st Field Artillery, was concentrated at Camp Mills, New York, during September and early October, 1917. During the latter part of October the division was transported to France, where a period of intensive training was entered upon in preparation for service at the front. The end of February, 1918, found the 151st in a quiet sector of the front in Lorraine, where the entire division had been placed for a period of front-line training which was to extend into the month of June. In July, the Forty-second was moved to the Champagne front to help withstand the great German offensive which was anticipated in that quarter. The attack came and was hurled back in one of the critical battles of the war, after which the division was hurried westward to assist in the allied counter-offensive which was driving the enemy out of the Marne salient. After the Germans had been driven back to the River Vesle, the guns of the 151st were hauled from the line and moved eastward again. September 12, 1918, found the regiment in position on the St. Mihiel front, where it carried out with almost mechanical precision its part in the brilliant operation of the First American Army which ended in the reduction of the salient. A few days later, men and guns were being hurried westward to join the last and greatest American offensive of the war, the Meuse-Argonne. The days which followed, from October 7, when the regiment entered the line, until November 11, were a period of almost incessant battle and it was here in the Argonne that the 151st did its most brilliant work. After the armistice the Rainbow Division was assigned to the Army of Occupation and moved forward to the Rhine.

The diary of Colonel Leach contains an entry for almost every day of the period beginning with September 4, 1917, and

ending with May 10, 1919, and it constitutes a vivid narrative of the operations enumerated above. The entries are sometimes brief, it is true, but a regimental commander during those stirring days had little time for writing. The reviewer has had an opportunity to examine the diary in the form in which it was originally kept. It is contained in a series of small, leather-bound memorandum books, one for each month, and of such size that they could be carried conveniently in the pocket of blouse or shirt and thus always be available. The entries were written in dugout or billet, or wherever else the colonel happened to be at the moment. On some occasions the record of the day's events was actually written under fire. It should be stated that the diary as published contains some corrections, and certain additional material in the form of quotations from orders, reports, and other official documents has been added by the author. It would also appear that in some instances supplementary material drawn from memory has been included in the published version.

As an historical document the diary is of the greatest value and interest. It contains information which will serve as a useful check upon the data relating to the regiment contained in official orders and reports. But it is more than this. It is an intensely interesting human document and it pictures war as a struggle of man's spirit and body against difficulty and danger and all the sordid things which accompany war. The value of the record is enhanced by the fact that it was originally intended for no other eye than that of the author. Thus we read of the colonel's anxiety for the welfare and safety of his men and we share his sorrow as he records the loss of friends and comrades among the officers and men of his command. Again, we share his pride as he mentions a word of praise or commendation from a superior after a particularly fine or successful bit of work by his regiment. The discerning reader will note traces of strain and fatigue in the tone of some of the entries written during the height of battle, and if he had access to the little volumes containing the original diary he would note similar traces of strain and weariness in the very handwriting itself. Enemy shells and poison gas were not the only things which tried the spirits of the men, as is revealed in the frequent references to cold and mud, flies and vermin, and the smells of the battlefield. And running

ever through the account of the terrible battle of the Argonne is the note of weariness. But after all, even in war it is the little things which often matter, and on May 31, 1918, the colonel paused to write in his diary: "Had a tooth filled today and enjoyed it as much as usual."

The easiest way in which to give the reader an idea concerning the contents of the volume is to quote a few typical passages, but one is confronted by the difficulty of selection. The following extracts, however, have been chosen more or less at random. The first two describe the vicissitudes of life aboard a convoy, early in the war:

Saturday, October 20th [1917]. Four hundred miles east of Hatteras at sunrise. Sea is rough and most of the men sick. Whole day spent in drill and inspection below decks. Two men lost over-board last night. So many of the officers are sick that it makes a tough day for the others. The hold and decks at times look simply hopeless, and all you can do is to keep at it. Details for work get sick before they report, and it is a constant fight to get things done. Tonight the sea is not running so high.

Friday, October 26th [1917]. Engines were broken down for an hour this morning and we rolled in the trough of the sea, but are on our way now in good shape. S. O. S. report of a ship sinking 100 miles N. E. struck by a torpedo. The ship made no answer. An oil tanker met us this A. M. with fuel for the destroyers. The ship was broken down for an hour and rolled in the sea, while the rest of the fleet steamed in a circle around her. It is cold and cloudy, and hard to keep warm; the wind being very raw.

Another entry records an early experience of the regiment at the front:

Saturday, March 9th [1918]. We pulled our first Coup de Main at one P. M. today, which lasted five hours of terrific shelling. Went to a front line observation station with General McKinstry and we got caught in a shell fire and lay in the bottom of a shallow trench an hour and five minutes, while German 5.0 shells fell like rain. We were almost buried alive several times. A frightful experience for me. At five-thirty the infantry completed its mission and the firing let up and I was glad to get back alive. Part of the time we observed the engagement from the top of a camouflaged tree on a high hill in the Vosges and had a wonderful view. The Germans shelled our O. P. and we were almost knocked out of the tree. A French soldier, standing next to me on the platform was badly wounded in the leg. My regiment fired 5,422

rounds and had only 20 casualties, which spoke well for the camouflage of our positions which had been especially prepared.

Now and then the diary relates a personal adventure, which in the following instance is not unmixed with a certain grim humor, at least from the viewpoint of the reader:

Sunday, July 28th [1918]. . . . The aviators fly very low and at one time one of them deliberately chased Captain Bradley and I around a tree, so close that we had the opportunity to empty our automatics at him, but the necessity of dodging his machine gun bullets hindered our marksmanship.

The hardship and strain of the fighting in the Argonne, which have already been mentioned, are revealed in such passages as the following:

Monday, October 14th [1918]. Fired all night and just before daylight finished our preparation for the advance. The rolling barrage started but the Infantry met with stubborn resistance from the German Artillery and machine guns. The 32nd Division on the right was counter-attacked and lost some ground. The roads are terrible with mud and shell holes and the service of ammunition is killing our horses. The harassing fire of the Germans with high explosives and gas continues. We are all very miserable for sleep, having had no rest for five days.

And here is a particularly vivid bit of description:

Wednesday, November 6th [1918]. At six A. M. in a cold rain, rode to St. Piermont, Oches and La Berlier, where I spent the rest of the day and night waiting for the batteries to come up. It was a battle picture that I will never forget as I rode over the hill into Oches, where two divisions were converging on the town, plodding through the mud and rain. There are unburied Americans and Germans along the road, covered with mud, and dead horses everywhere, and everyone so tired it was absolutely still, except for the rattle of equipment and the splash of the mud.

Nothing reveals more clearly the nature of the ordeal through which the men of the 151st had passed than their almost pitiful attempt at a celebration when the news of the armistice arrived:

Monday, November 11th [1918]. The Armistice is signed and at eleven A. M. the firing ceased. Nothing impressed me so much as the absolute silence. In the evening the soldiers fired all of the German Rocket dumps and each man built a little fire for himself out of the debris, but with it all there was very little excitement. The band played in the afternoon for the first time in weeks.

The *Diary* is a noteworthy contribution to the story of America's participation in the World War, and it is also an absorbing personal narrative of stirring events, full of human interest and adventure.

WAYNE E. STEVENS

Forty Years in North Dakota (In Relation to Grand Forks County). BY H. V. ARNOLD. (Larimore, North Dakota, the author, 1921. 176 p.)

In Dr. Van Dyke Robinson's admirable study of the development of agriculture in Minnesota, published eight years ago, there is a chapter on the period of specialized wheat farming, from 1860 to 1880. Diagrams and statistics are employed to bring out the fact that Minnesota wheat culture reached "its third and final culminating point" in 1878. In a subsequent chapter the author designates the years 1880 to 1900 as the period in which diversified farming developed. It is interesting to turn from the impersonal analysis in Dr. Robinson's pages to such a book as Mr. H. V. Arnold's *Forty Years in North Dakota*, for the opening chapters of the latter work translate the scholar's statistics into the language of personal experience. The diagram becomes the story of the Arnolds of Houston County, Minnesota, who declined to adjust themselves to the transition from specialized to diversified farming. "The ultimate failure of wheat raising in southern Minnesota and northern Iowa," writes one of the Arnolds, the author of the book under review, "had been foreseen by many from the analogy of the older states and now the people of those sections found themselves confronted with the reality. It was said by some that farmers must pay more attention to stock raising with improved breeds of both hogs and cattle. But there were hundreds of the small farmers who were unable to cope with the changed situation, since to adjust matters to the required new conditions would take several years."

The three Arnolds — two brothers and a cousin — were small farmers who cut the Gordian knot by emigrating. "Two farm wagons had to be provided with bows shaved out of long, slender saplings as frames for the canvas coverings of the wagons. The space inside was made wider than usual by blocking out the

lower ends of the bows where they were bolted to the sides of the wagons. . . . Finally the wagons were rather heavily loaded with household goods, trunks, bedding, and some light farming implements, etc. The one span of horses on the place was sold with some other things and five yoke of oxen purchased at \$80 to \$90 per yoke, the fifth pair having been trained to pull in harnesses. . . . A cow and grown colt were also taken along." On April 12, 1880, the Arnolds left Houston County and made their slow way through Preston, Chatfield, and Cannon Falls, to the Twin Cities. They then started west, going by way of St. Cloud, Fergus Falls, and Moorhead; and after sundry other stops "the first three occupants of Larimore township in Grand Forks County, N. D." reached their destination. The story of this enterprise, typical in its general features of the emigration of thousands of Minnesotans, is told in considerable detail in chapter 1 — on "The Journey to North Dakota" — of the book under review.

The experiences of the Arnolds in North Dakota, where they raised wheat to their hearts' content and became large farmers, need not be told here. Mr. Arnold's chapters on establishing the settlement, subdividing the township, affairs in 1881, the boom year and later, lagging years for town and country, the late eighties and the early nineties, railroad division times, and the recent period, bring the story down to date. The author, writing of his North Dakota township with an affection rooted in his forty years residence there, is not unlike that charming creation of Herbert Quick, Jacob Vandemark.

Forty Years in North Dakota is of interest to the student of Minnesota history in its relations to the history of North Dakota. It is a document of the westward movement. It is an interesting personal record. But alas, it can be read only by those who possess strong eyes, for it was printed by means of a "private outfit of printing material." Evidently there has been a typographical battle and the casualties — torn words and mutilated sentences — limp and stagger across the pages.

THEODORE C. BLEGEN

MINNESOTA HISTORICAL SOCIETY NOTES

A new venture of the society in the field of publication is a monthly check list of current documents issued by the various state departments, boards, and commissions, and by state-supported societies and institutions. The first number, for July, 1923, appeared as a four-page folder in September. It is believed that the publication of this list will be of great assistance to the society in the difficult task of keeping its files of state documents complete and up-to-date, and also to other libraries, institutions, and individuals, who want to keep informed about Minnesota publications. The list will be distributed to the various state departments and institutions concerned, to members of the legislature, to schools and libraries which subscribe to the society's publications, to Minnesota newspapers, and to such members of the society and exchanges as express a desire to be put on the mailing list.

Two life members, Edward C. Congdon of Duluth and Ambrose Tighe of St. Paul, became patrons of the society during the three months ending September 30, 1923. During the same period the transfer of four life members, Henry S. Blakeley and James H. Skinner of St. Paul, William A. McGonagle of Duluth, and John R. Swann of Madison, to the class of contributing-life members brought the total of this group to twenty-two. The additions to the active membership during the quarter numbered 63, which bring the total to 1,125. A list of the names of the new members, grouped by counties, follows:

ANOKA: Theresa Ericksen of Anoka.

BELTRAMI: Fremont P. Wirth of Bemidji.

BLUE EARTH: Charles T. Taylor of Mankato.

BROWN: Richard Sallet of New Ulm.

CARLTON: Henry G. Stevens of Cloquet.

CROW WING: Dr. Walter Courtney, Louis B. Kinder, and George H. Stone, all of Brainerd.

FILLMORE: George A. Haven of Chatfield.

GOODHUE: George W. Garrard of Frontenac.

HENNEPIN: Dr. Fred L. Adair, James F. Bell, Dan C. Brown, Elbert L. Carpenter, Charles M. Case, John F. McGee, J. Lewis Maynard, Harry N. Owen, Reverend Stanley H. Perry, Charles H. Ramsdell, James B. Sutherland, Dr. David O. Thomas, Mrs. David O. Thomas, Edward M. Van Cleve, and Jesse H. Wakeman of Minneapolis; and Frank A. Bovey and John M. Wulfinf of Wayzata.

MARTIN: Dr. Ferd N. Hunt of Fairmont.

MOWER: Nathan F. Banfield, Edward N. Hoffman, George A. Hormel, John L. Mitchell, and D. R. Spieker of Austin; and F. W. Kimball of Waltham.

OLMSTED: Arthur C. Gooding and George B. Knowlton of Rochester.

POLK: Conrad G. Selvig of Crookston.

RAMSEY: Daniel M. Brigham, Mrs. Bertram W. Downs, Amy W. Noll, Mrs. Herbert C. Varney, and Daniel E. Willard, all of St. Paul.

RED LAKE: Leland E. Healy of Red Lake Falls.

RICE: Frank A. Turek of Morristown.

ST. LOUIS: Marshall H. Alworth, John B. Arnold, Lewis G. Castle, Mrs. Mary E. Coffin, Henry J. Grannis, Sydney A. Harley, Hans B. Haroldson, James H. Harper, Luther C. Harris, John W. Hunt, Seth Marshall, and William J. Olcott of Duluth; and Robert H. Ely of Eveleth.

STEELE: Dr. Benedik Melby of Blooming Prairie.

WILKIN: Henry Schendel of Campbell.

WINONA: Sister M. Aquinas of Winona.

NONRESIDENT: Carl W. Blegen of Athens, Greece; Henry E. Huntington of San Gabriel, California; and John R. Van Cleve of Salt Lake City, Utah.

The number of subscriptions to the society's publications from schools and public libraries has been increased to 114 by the addition of six institutions during the last quarter. These include the public libraries of Brainerd, Grand Rapids, and Red Wing; the libraries of the University High School, Minneapolis, and of Humboldt High School, St. Paul; and the library of Augsburg Seminary, Minneapolis.

The society lost six active members by death during the last quarter: the Honorable Fred C. Stevens of St. Paul, July 1; Horace V. Winchell of Los Angeles, California, July 27; George H. Haven of Chatfield, August 5; William L. Harris of Minneapolis, September 11; Mrs. Charles J. A. Morris of St. Paul, September 12; and the Honorable Calvin L. Brown of Minneapolis, September 24. Benjamin Sulte of Ottawa, Canada, an honorary member, died on August 6. The deaths of a corresponding member, the Reverend William S. Bell of St. Maries, Idaho, on May 23, 1920, and of an active member, Charles N. Nelson of Port Washington, New York, on May 24, 1923, have not been reported in previous numbers of the BULLETIN.

In view of the fact that the society now has two meetings a year, each with several public sessions for the reading of papers, the holding of public sessions in connection with the stated meetings of the executive council in October and April has been discontinued. At the meeting of the council on October 8 some of the recent additions to the manuscript collections were described and exhibited by the curator, Dr. Grace Lee Nute. The council voted at this meeting to authorize the establishment of a state-wide committee of the society on membership, the intention being that, so far as possible, there shall be at least one member of the committee in each county of the state.

Considerable progress has been made upon the preparation of a bibliography of Minnesota newspapers and an inventory of extant files, a project undertaken jointly by the society and the graduate school of the University of Minnesota. An inventory of the society's files has been completed and a mass of information about other papers has been collected from newspaper annuals and similar sources of information. The work will be continued and in the course of time the data collected will be digested and prepared for publication.

Photostatic reproductions are being made of certain early copies of the *Dakota Democrat* and the *Black Hills Pioneer*, rare old newspapers owned by the State Historical Society of South Dakota and the Minnesota Historical Society. As the file of each society contains certain numbers not in the other file, the photostat is being called into use to fill the gaps for both societies.

Six talks have now been broadcast in the monthly series given in the interest of Minnesota history by representatives of the society at the Twin City radio station WLAG. The fourth was delivered on July 16 by the curator of the museum on "A Pioneer Indian Agent at Fort Snelling." On August 27 the superintendent told "The Story of the Grand Portage," and on September 17 the assistant superintendent discussed "Old Manuscripts and Minnesota History."

During July, August, and September, 7,537 books were served to 1,315 readers in the library. Although these figures indicate that considerably less use of the library is made during the summer than in the spring months (see *ante*, p. 141, 221), nevertheless the number of books served during the last quarter represents an increase of 1,151, or 18 per cent, over the service for the corresponding three months of 1922, and an increase of 4,387, or 138 per cent, over the service for the corresponding period in 1921.

With the opening of the new fiscal year on July 1, book-purchasing, which had been somewhat checked for a few months for lack of funds, was renewed and important recent publications in the field of the society's library were acquired. In view of the high cost of books and the constantly increasing output, special attention is being given to avoiding unnecessary duplication of material available in other libraries in the Twin Cities. In some cases cards will be entered in the society's catalogue containing references to such material in other libraries, thus helping to prevent duplication and at the same time making the catalogue to a certain extent an index to the resources of the community in the field of Americana.

This year, for the second time, the society had an exhibit in the state building at the state fair. The chief object of the exhibit was to illustrate the various activities of the society. Thousands of persons examined the museum objects, photographs, charts, and photostats which were on display. On one wall of the booth an excellent exhibit was presented by the Minnesota War Records Commission. The traveling exhibit, which was used at the summer meeting of the St. Louis County Historical Society (see *post*, p. 322), was brought back in time to be incorporated with the state fair exhibit.

The curator of manuscripts, in connection with her vacation, spent several weeks searching for Minnesota material in the East, observing the work of similar departments in other institutions and supervising the work of making a calendar of the American Fur Company Papers in the possession of the New York Historical Society (see *ante*, p. 224, and *post*, p. 307). While in Concord, New Hampshire, Dr. Nute inspected a collection of letters sent home from La Pointe by the Congregational missionary to the Indians, the Reverend Sherman Hall. She obtained permission to have these letters — more than a hundred in number — photostated by the Massachusetts Historical Society. When this work has been done the society will receive a valuable addition to its sources on early Minnesota history. At the Congregational House in Boston Dr. Nute examined some twenty volumes of letters of instructions to missionaries among whom were such well-known Minnesota men as Boutwell and Ayer.

A multiplex display fixture with glass-covered wing screens to be used in exhibiting the Charles P. Noyes coin collection has been purchased for the society by Mrs. Noyes.

The superintendent attended the meeting of the St. Louis County Historical Society at Virginia on August 6 and 7 and participated in the program on the second day (see *post*, p. 322). He spoke at a Leif Ericson celebration in Minneapolis on September 29 (see *post*, p. 312) and again on the same subject at a similar meeting in Duluth the next day.

Miss Elizabeth Clark, the head cataloguer, attended the annual meeting of the Minnesota Library Association, held in Faribault from September 3 to 5.

Miss Dorothy Ware of St. Paul, who was graduated from the University of Minnesota in June, became accessions assistant in the library on September 10, succeeding Miss Ada Liddell, who returns to her studies at the university. With the resignation of Miss Hazel Ohman as reference assistant, to take effect on October 15, Miss Ware has been appointed to that position. Miss Irene Bulov will be advanced from catalogue clerk to accessions assistant and Miss Elizabeth Sergent takes the position

of catalogue clerk. Miss Ohman has accepted a position with the James J. Hill Reference Library of St. Paul.

A SEARCH FOR MANUSCRIPTS OF MINNESOTA INTEREST IN MONTREAL

From June 21 to July 5, Dr. Wayne E. Stevens of Dartmouth College, who has devoted several years of study to the history of the fur trade in the upper Mississippi Valley and the Canadian Northwest, made a search on behalf of the society for manuscripts of Minnesota interest in Montreal. Most of the papers that came to light date from the British period when the fur trade centered at Montreal, with ramifications throughout the upper Mississippi Valley and the Great Lakes region. In some cases the documents which were found, although they have no specific connection with Minnesota, throw light on the fur trade generally and, therefore, possess great value to students of the trade in any part of the region.

Dr. Stevens examined five depositories: the Redpath Library in McGill University, the Bibliothèque St. Sulpice, the McCord National Museum, the Chateau de Ramesay, and the Archives of the District of Montreal; and selected for photostatic reproduction such items as seemed of special importance.

The most valuable material in the Redpath Library, so far as the fur trade is concerned, is the Masson Collection, a part of a large group of manuscripts originally assembled by Louis R. Masson, who edited the important *Les bourgeois de la compagnie du nord-ouest*, a two-volume compilation of fur-trade documents published at Quebec in 1889. The material from the Masson Collection photostated for the society includes: (1) the journal of Edward Umfréville, which describes an expedition made in 1784—after the treaty terminating the Revolution—for the purpose of discovering an alternative route to that by way of Grand Portage; (2) a list of men and the various departments of the Northwest Company for 1805; (3) a description of the falls of "Steep Rocks" near Fort William, June 22, 1808, probably by Donald McKenzie; (4) Dr. John McLaughlin's description of the country from Fort William to the Lake of the Woods, written about 1805; (5) the journal of Archibald N. McLeod,

covering the period from July 16 to July 28, 1784, an illuminating record of the activities of a Northwest Company fur-trader; and (6) the journal of John McDonell for 1793, an unsigned document the authorship of which was established by Dr. Stevens. A part of McDonell's journal was published by Masson in 1889, but he did not include the sixty-page manuscript which has now been identified as the earlier portion of the journal. A few papers from other collections of manuscripts in the Redpath Library also were photostated.

The McCord National Museum yielded no manuscripts of interest for Minnesota history, but it was found to contain many portraits of men famous in the history of the Northwest Company. Naturally some of these portraits are of considerable interest for the student of the Minnesota fur trade. Nothing of value for Minnesota history was found in the Chateau de Ramesay.

At the Bibliothèque St. Sulpice Dr. Stevens examined the Baby Collection, so named because the manuscripts comprising it were assembled by a Judge Baby of Montreal. A considerable number of papers from this collection were photostated for the society. The item of most importance is the unpublished minutes of the Northwest Company, probably the most valuable source of information on the operations of the company which Dr. Stevens found at Montreal. It was located among the Samuel Gerrard Papers, a group of manuscripts in the larger Baby Collection. Among miscellaneous documents from this collection which were copied for the society are a number of papers relating to Jonathan Carver and some interesting business records which well illustrate the methods employed in the fur trade about 1794.

The most informing papers examined in the Archives of the District of Montreal were the notarial records. It was an *engagement* found among these papers that proved that John McDonell was the author of the unsigned diary found in the Masson Collection. In the diary Dr. Stevens noted the following entry: "1793. May 10th Signed my Engagement with the North-West Company for five years to winter in the Indian Country as a clerk the terms are £100 at the expiration and found in necessities." Among the notarial bonds for 1793, which the

Montreal archivist produced, Dr. Stevens found a paper dated May 10 and signed by John McDonell, pledging him to enter the Indian country for five years, his remuneration to be one hundred pounds and necessaries. The evidence is proof of the authorship of the diary. The case is a good illustration of the possible value of such records as the *engagements*.

The result of this search at Montreal is a large addition of fur-trade records to the manuscript collection of the society. In the form of photostats these records are now available for students and doubtless will prove an invaluable contribution to knowledge of the British period of Minnesota history.

ACCESSIONS

The society's growing collection of Knute Nelson Papers has been augmented by four new gifts during the quarter. Governor Preus has presented a large folder of correspondence, mainly between Senator Nelson and Mr. Frederick G. Ingersoll of St. Paul, relating to the placing of the statue of Henry M. Rice in Statuary Hall in Washington. A file of correspondence between Senator Nelson and a committee of Minnesota traveling men, which has been presented by Mr. Wright T. Orcutt of Minneapolis, throws light upon the influence of the traveling men of the state in persuading Nelson to be a candidate to succeed himself in 1918. A few additional Nelson letters also have been received from Mrs. James T. Morris and Mr. Paul J. Thompson of Minneapolis.

The society continues to receive calendar cards for fur-trade letters of Minnesota interest among the American Fur Company Papers owned by the New York Historical Society (see *ante*, p. 224). Among the names represented are Henry H. Sibley, Charles H. Oakes, Alexis Bailly, Samuel Abbot, William T. Boutwell, Anthony Dudgeon, Moses D. Burnet, John Jacob Astor, Henry R. Schoolcraft, John Furey, and N. D. Grover. The manuscripts listed are chiefly from the late thirties and early forties.

Twenty-seven papers have been added to the Daniel A. Robertson Papers through the kindness of Mr. Victor Robertson of

St. Paul. They are valuable because they throw light on the relation between territorial land speculation and immigration in Minnesota. Robertson, as a land speculator, was particularly interested in the development of Chengwatana, Minnesota. See *ante*, p. 198, n.

A copy of a reminiscent letter written in 1870 by Wayne Clark to Mrs. Catharine M. Smith of Winona, recalling events of May, 1852, when Winona was Wabasha Prairie, has been donated by Mrs. Smith's son, Mr. Orrin F. Smith of Winona.

A letter written by Byron M. Smith in St. Paul on June 29, 1855, to his relatives in New York has been presented by Miss May Baldwin of Spokane, Washington. An interesting feature of the letter is its version of the legend about White Bear Lake, explaining the origin of the name.

A collection of letters and documents of William B. and Thomas P. Gere, dealing with political conditions in Minnesota from 1857 to 1864 and with Civil War experiences, has been presented by a niece, Mrs. Minnie Hosier of Chatfield. It is interesting to note that the society's attention was first called to these papers by a class of high school students who were exploring the history of their own locality. See *ante*, p. 158.

A manuscript record book containing copies of the official orders of Company M, First Regiment, Minnesota Mounted Rangers, for 1862 and 1863, is the gift of Mr. George H. Daimond of St. Paul.

The souvenir menu of a complimentary dinner at the Merchants Hotel, St. Paul, in May, 1858, to Captain D. S. Harris of Galena, Illinois, who brought the first steamboat of that season, is the gift of Mrs. Medora O. F. Morrill of Chatfield. She has also sent an account of how Captain Harris raced to bring the first cablegram to St. Paul.

A letter from Governor John S. Pillsbury of March 15, 1876, dealing with the relief of Jackson County sufferers from the grasshopper plague is the gift of Mr. P. D. McKellar of St. Paul.

The society has received a typewritten copy of an autobiography of Mr. Walter Stone Pardee of Chicago, which possesses

much Minnesota interest. Mr. Pardee was graduated from the University of Minnesota in 1877 and was for many years a Minneapolis city official. His reminiscences are arranged as short sketches, each with a suggestive title, examples of which are "Of Early St. Anthony's Falls," "An Early Minnesota Private School," and "Concerning the University of Minnesota."

The files of archives from the governor's office in the custody of the society are now reasonably complete for the period from 1849 to 1908. Eighteen additional volumes, consisting mainly of letter-press books, have been received, including fourteen volumes of executive correspondence for the years 1889 to 1904 and two volumes of the correspondence of the board of pardons for 1900 to 1905.

To the large collection of Maria Sanford Papers acquired in January (see *ante*, p. 145) Mrs. James T. Morris of Minneapolis has added another letter. It is to be hoped that other persons owning letters from this famous Minnesota woman will follow Mrs. Morris' example.

The books and papers of the St. Croix Valley Old Settlers' Association have come to the society, through the courtesy of Mrs. Nellie P. Bloomer of White Bear Lake, from Mrs. Arline Brown of St. Paul. The records are valuable for the large amount of biographical information which they contain regarding pioneer settlers.

The manuscript of an address on "The Long Expedition Through the Red River Valley to Fort Garry in 1823," by Mr. Conrad G. Selvig of Crookston, has been received from the author. A manuscript entitled "Early Recollections of the Duluth and Iron Range Rail Road" has been presented by its author, Mr. William A. McGonagle of Duluth. See *post*, p. 317, 322.

Two interesting additions to the portrait collection have recently been made. A framed enlargement of a photograph of the late Michael J. Dowling is the gift of Mrs. Dowling of Olivia; and the Honorable Samuel R. Van Sant has presented a large framed pastel portrait of himself which was given to him in 1895

when he was speaker of the House of Representatives in the state legislature.

A fine suit of Persian armor, a circular steel shield, two Arab flintlock guns inlaid and mounted with ivory and silver, a Persian scimitar and scabbard, a Bedouin shield and steel-tipped lances, and a Spanish flintlock blunderbuss are included in an unusual collection of objects presented by Mrs. Charles N. Nelson of Port Washington, New York. They were gathered during years of travel by her husband, the late Charles N. Nelson, a pioneer lumberman in Minnesota and a member of the society for many years.

Mr. David W. Morison of St. Paul has presented a number of pieces of Lowestoft china; a cup, a saucer, a soup plate, and a bowl of Spode ware; a pair of brass lamps; and several other articles of interest. He and his brother, Mr. Stanford N. Morison of New York City, have deposited a large punch bowl of Chinese ware, a pair of bronze candelabra, two bronze lamps, and a framed steel engraving of Benjamin Franklin.

Two pipes which belonged to Sitting Bull and a collection of Indian photographs, including autographed pictures of Sitting Bull and Rain-in-the-Face, have been presented by Mr. E. J. Whiting of Milwaukee, Wisconsin.

Several recent additions have been made to the society's collection of objects illustrating military history. These include the escutcheon and military badges of General Lucius F. Hubbard, presented by Mr. L. V. Hubbard of Minneapolis; and a military flintlock musket, dated 1762 and used in the Revolution, deposited by Mr. Thomas F. Kelly of St. Paul.

An oxcart chair bearing the date 1743, which was used by women as a means of keeping their dresses clean when going to church, is the gift of Miss Harriet M. Robinson of Minneapolis.

A specimen of the handiwork of women in the Civil War period, a framed wreath of seeds and nuts which was made by Eliza Huntington, has been deposited by Mr. Ebenezer E. Huntington of St. Paul.

NEWS AND COMMENT

Not infrequently people assume that history is concerned only with events of long ago and that if the events involve bloodshed and tragedy their historic quality is intensified. Such an assumption is not unnatural, for dramatic happenings excite popular interest and there is a spark of antiquarianism in most human beings. Actually the development of agriculture within a given region is probably far more significant than all its Indian wars, and the historical importance of recent events is not less than that of the earlier. Episodes are of far less consequence than steps in a process of development. In brief, much of the development which has produced present-day conditions has been essentially peaceful and undramatic, a fact not less true of the state and the locality than of the entire nation. Interesting illustrations of this point of view are afforded by such recent books as Dr. Joseph Schafer's study of the history of Wisconsin agriculture (see *ante*, p. 132), and Mr. Lyman Carrier's *The Beginnings of Agriculture in America* (New York, 1923. 323 p.). The first chapter in the latter work consists of a suggestive essay on the "Value of Agricultural History."

A detailed study of the Winnebago tribe of Indians by Paul Radin makes up the bulk of the *Thirty-seventh Annual Report* of the Bureau of American Ethnology (Washington, 1923. 560 p.).

Indian and White in the Northwest, a History of Catholicity in Montana, 1831 to 1891, by L. B. Palladino (Lancaster, Pennsylvania, 1922. 512 p.), is a revision of a work originally published in 1893. More than half of the book is devoted to the history of Catholic missions among the Indians of Montana.

A description of a journey from Norway to America in 1838, written by Ole Nattestad and published as a small book in 1839 at Drammen, Norway, is reprinted in the July and August issues of *Familiens Magasin*, with an introduction setting forth its historical importance. The reprint is from a photostatic copy

of the only original known to be in existence, that in the possession of the State Historical Society of Wisconsin. An English translation of the book is published in the *Wisconsin Magazine of History* for December, 1917.

"Leif Ericson day" was celebrated in Minnesota and in other parts of the United States on September 29 in accordance with plans which were worked out by the American-Scandinavian Foundation. Governor Preus issued a proclamation calling upon citizens of the state to honor the memory of Leif Ericson; and a celebration sponsored by a group of Scandinavian societies was held in the Minneapolis Auditorium on Saturday evening, September 29. After a brief introductory talk by the presiding officer, Dr. Carl M. Roan, a speech on "The Viking Age" was delivered by Dr. Henry A. Bellows, in which the background of Leif Ericson's achievements was described. "The Finding of America" was then discussed by Dr. Solon J. Buck, superintendent of the Minnesota Historical Society, with particular emphasis upon the accounts in the sagas which furnish the chief source of information on the subject. A third speaker, Judge Trygve O. Gilbert of Willmar, spoke on "The Norse Contribution to America," dealing especially with the part played by Norwegian immigrants and their descendants in the history of the Middle West. An interesting article by Dr. Bellows on Leif Ericson and the significance of his finding of America appears in the *Minneapolis Tribune* for September 23. The September number of the *American-Scandinavian Review* contains a number of articles on Leif Ericson and the Northmen. Dr. Laurence M. Larson writes on "The Vinland Voyages," and there are articles on "Leif Ericson Conquering America," by Harry Sundby-Hansen; on "The First Scandinavian Settlers in Greenland; Medieval Paris Fashions in the Far North," by Paul Nörlund; and on "The Sailing Craft of the Vikings."

An article on "Valdris Samband og dets Ledende Mænd," by Juul Dieserud, is published in volume 16, numbers 4 and 5, of *Nordmandsforbundet*. Mr. Dieserud describes the origin and history of Valdris Samband, a *bygdelaag* composed of people tracing their ancestry to the Norwegian district of Valdres.

Major Stephen H. Long's report on the expedition to the mouth of the Yellowstone River in 1820, the original of which is in the archives of the war department, is published as part of an article by Captain Fred A. Bill in the *Saturday Evening Post* of Burlington, Iowa, for August 4, 11, and 18, under the title "First Steam Vessel on Western Rivers." Captain Bill's chief interest is in the steamboat "Western Engineer," which, after accompanying the Long party up the Missouri to "the Council Bluffs," returned to St. Louis with orders to proceed "up the Mississippi to the De Moyaen rapids, and thence down the river to Cape Girardeau."

The paper on "James Dickson: A Filibuster in Minnesota in 1836," which was read by Dr. Grace Lee Nute at the last annual meeting of the Minnesota Historical Society (see *ante*, p. 116), is published in the *Mississippi Valley Historical Review* for September. As a supplement to the paper several documents relating to the subject are printed with a brief introduction by Dr. Nute. These are drawn from the Canadian Archives, the British foreign office, and the Martin McLeod Papers in the possession of the Minnesota Historical Society. The documents printed form a valuable body of source material on an interesting subject in the history of the Northwest, but Dr. Nute points out that the most interesting document of the expedition is the diary of Martin McLeod, as yet unpublished. Another article in the *Review* of interest to Minnesota readers is on "Trans-Mississippi Railroads During the Fifties," by Robert E. Riegel. In the brief survey of the railroad situation in Minnesota which the author presents, several minor errors are made which might have been avoided if he had consulted the first volume of Dr. Folwell's *History of Minnesota*.

The withdrawal of Dr. Clarence W. Alvord as managing editor of the *Mississippi Valley Historical Review* is announced in the September issue of that periodical. Dr. Alvord also has resigned as professor of history at the University of Minnesota. He announces that he has accepted an opportunity to devote all his time to the writing of history and that he has "elected to spend the next two years or more in England to finish several volumes already started or projected." Dr. Alvord's broad

scholarship and unflagging enthusiasm are largely responsible for the present standing of the periodical which he has guided "along the path of scientific truth" as the "representative review devoted to American history." In withdrawing from its editorial management he suggests that its scope be extended to the limits of its reputation and that "there be admitted to its pages articles on all phases of our national development, whether eastern or western."

A new contribution to the history of the "agrarian crusade" is made in an article entitled "The Economic Basis of the Populist Movement in Iowa," by Herman C. Nixon, which is published in the *Iowa Journal of History and Politics* for July. In the same magazine is a general sketch of "The Development of Trans-Mississippi Political Geography," by Ruth L. Higgins.

The July number of the *Palimpsest* contains several essays written in celebration of the two hundred and fiftieth anniversary of the discovery of the Mississippi River by Louis Jolliet and Father Jacques Marquette. Among these articles may be noted the following: "The Discovery," by Bruce E. Mahan; "Father Marquette," by Ruth B. Middaugh; and "Louis Joliet," by John E. Briggs. The "Restorer of Iowa Palimpsests," whose work is discussed by Bertha M. H. Shambaugh in the August number of the same magazine, is none other than Mr. Herbert Quick, the author of two historical novels dealing with Iowa conditions. It is interesting to note that Mr. Quick speaks of himself simply as "sitting in the wagon of history with my feet dangling down and facing the rear."

Several state historical organizations have embarked upon enterprises involving the editing and publication of some of the fundamental sources of their history. Three volumes in a series entitled *The Messages and Proclamations of the Governors of the State of Missouri* have been issued by the State Historical Society of Missouri (Columbia, Missouri, 1922. 526, 528, 541 p.). These volumes, which are compiled and edited by Buel Leopard and Floyd C. Shoemaker, cover the period from 1820 to 1864. Only formal documents are printed, that is, regular, veto, and special messages; proclamations; and memoranda of

proclamations and writs of election. In order that the reader may appreciate the background of the messages, a biographical account of each governor precedes the documents of his administration. The Indiana Historical Commission has begun the publication of *Governors' Messages and Letters* for Indiana, and in this series two volumes, edited by Logan Esary, have appeared. The second of these, which is volume 9 of the *Indiana Historical Collections* (Indianapolis, 1922. 772 p.), covers the period from 1812 to 1816. It is interesting to note that not only formal messages and documents but also many letters written by and to the Indiana governors are included in the publication. If this plan is carried forward the result will be a comprehensive collection of the correspondence of the Indiana governors. Another interesting type of state publication is that illustrated by a series of volumes being prepared by the division of archives and history of the University of the State of New York. Dr. James Sullivan, director of this division and state historian, has now edited three volumes of *The Papers of Sir William Johnson*. These cover the years from 1738 to 1762, but, as the manuscripts upon which the work is based come down to 1808, several additional volumes in the series will be issued. The publication of these papers is an important event not only for the study of New York history but also for the history of the entire West, for Sir William Johnson was the British government's superintendent in charge of affairs relating to all the northern Indians from 1756 to 1774.

In the last number of the BULLETIN attention was called to a series of articles on North Dakota history published in the April number of the *Quarterly Journal* of the University of North Dakota. The July number of the same periodical contains a series of articles dealing with the history of the University of North Dakota. Particularly interesting is Professor John M. Gillette's study of the "Social and Economic Background of the University of North Dakota in the Eighties of Last Century." Among other articles in the number are: "The Founding of the University," by Vernon P. Squires; "Student Life During the First Decade of the University of North Dakota," by Mrs. Mattie Glass Massee; "Webster Merrifield and the University

of North Dakota," by Earle J. Babcock; and "Pioneers in Education in North Dakota," by E. J. Taylor. The discontinuance of the *Quarterly Journal* is announced with the July number.

Four sites of historic interest have recently been donated to the state of North Dakota to be converted into state parks. All are scenes of events connected with the Sibley expedition of 1863 and one is the site of Camp Atchison.

The "Golden Jubilee Edition" of the *Bismarck* [North Dakota] *Tribune*, issued on July 11, contains numerous articles of interest to Minnesotans. The *Tribune*, which was the first newspaper in North Dakota, was established on July 11, 1873. In the jubilee issue interesting items are drawn from the old files and an article describing the coming of the Northern Pacific Railroad to Bismarck is contributed by Mr. Olin D. Wheeler.

A step toward better teaching of state history in Oregon has been taken by the superintendent of public instruction in that state through the issuance of a forty-page pamphlet entitled *History of Oregon, a Teachers' Outline for Use in the Eighth Grade*. Miss Lilli Schmidli contributes some well-considered "Suggestions to Teachers" in which she presents reasons for the teaching of state history to boys and girls and shows the hollowness of the view that history deals only with something grand and courageous which somebody did somewhere else.

An address "to the citizens of each county in the state of Texas, urging them to organize in their respective counties a County Historical Society to be affiliated with the Texas Historical Association" is published in the *Southwestern Historical Quarterly* for July.

A study of "Some Social Traits of Teutons" comprises the fourth installment of the series on "The Yankee and the Teuton in Wisconsin," by Joseph Schafer, in the September number of the *Wisconsin Magazine of History*. A suggestive article on "The Historical Society and Genealogical Research," by Arthur Adams, appears in the same number.

The house erected more than a hundred years ago by the fur-trader, Michel Brisbois, at Prairie du Chien, Wisconsin, is the subject of a brief article in the *Minneapolis Journal* for July 1.

The claim is made that this dwelling, which is still in use, is the oldest in the upper Mississippi Valley. A picture of the house accompanies the article.

A centennial tour under the auspices of the Minnesota Red River Valley Development Association was made from Crookston to Winnipeg on August 19 in commemoration of the exploration of the upper Red River Valley by Major Stephen H. Long in August, 1823. On August 20 a luncheon was held at Kildonan Park, Winnipeg, and a program of speeches followed. The principal address was delivered by Mr. Conrad G. Selvig, superintendent of the Northwest School and Experiment Station at Crookston, who told the story of the Long expedition, devoting particular attention to Long's experiences in the Red River Valley. The *Manitoba Free Press* of Winnipeg for August 18 prints an account of the visit of the Long party to Pembina and Fort Garry.

The *Manitoba Free Press* of Winnipeg has been running a series of articles entitled "Notables Who Have Visited Winnipeg." Accounts are included of the sojourns in the "city, settlement and ancient fur-post" of the following celebrities: Legardeur de Saint-Pierre, explorer, June 16; the "famous Northwest company bourgeois John McDonald, of Garth," June 23; the Earl of Selkirk, June 30; the Reverend John West, who "managed to lay the foundation of a great church in the wilderness" between 1820 and 1823, July 28; Major Stephen H. Long, August 8; the Sioux chiefs, Burning Earth and Ulaneta, August 11; and Governor Alexander Ramsey of Minnesota, September 1.

GENERAL MINNESOTA ITEMS

"Minnesota in the United States Senate — A Roll of Illustrious Names" is the title of a résumé of the state's record in the upper house of Congress in the *Minneapolis Journal* for July 15. It includes sketches of the careers of seventeen men whom Minnesota has sent to the Senate during its sixty-five years of statehood and recalls the many hot political struggles incident to their elections. Portraits of Senators Cushman K. Davis,

Knute Nelson, Alexander Ramsey, James Shields, William D. Washburn, and William Windom illustrate the article.

Mr. John Talman is the author of a chronological narrative in verse published recently under the title *Minnesota in Panorama: An Historical Poem With Notes by the Author* (Mapleton, 1923. 34 p.). A few verses on the Spanish and World wars have been added to the original, which was read on October 10, 1910, before an open meeting of the Minnesota Historical Society, of which the author is the newspaper librarian.

A large amount of historical information about the Benevolent and Protective Order of Elks in Minnesota is contained in a pamphlet entitled *The Story of the Elks*, compiled by Peter F. Owens for the nineteenth annual state convention of the organization at Hibbing on August 16 and 17 (38 p.).

A booklet entitled *Loren Harrison Batchelder: In Memoriam*, edited by Henry L. Osborn (St. Paul, 1923. 28 p.), has been published by Hamline University in honor of a professor who played a prominent part in the history of that college. From 1883 to 1917 Mr. Batchelder held the chair of chemistry and for many years he also served as dean. He died on September 11, 1922. The booklet is made up chiefly of addresses given by Dr. George H. Bridgman, Dr. Henry L. Osborn, the Reverend Frank L. Cone, Mr. James M. Hackney, and President Samuel F. Kerfoot at a memorial service held in the college chapel on October 2, 1922.

An article about Leonidas Merritt and the opening of the Mesabi Range is published in the *American Magazine* for September. The compiler of the article, Mr. Neil M. Clark, fortunately has allowed Mr. Merritt to tell in his own words the interesting story of the finding of iron ore on the Mesabi.

The fortieth anniversary of the establishment of the Duluth and Iron Range Railroad was celebrated at Two Harbors on July 19. An interesting feature of the occasion was an address by the president of the railroad, Mr. William A. McGonagle of Duluth, recounting his experiences in connection with the early history of the road. The address is published in the *Lake County Chronicle* of Two Harbors for July 26.

Mr. W. H. Brill's comprehensive series of articles dealing with the trunk highways of the state continues from July 1 to September 30 in the Sunday issues of the *Minneapolis Tribune*. The fourteen illustrated articles which have appeared in this series during the period indicated deal with highways number 15 to 44 inclusive. Mr. Brill has assembled a large amount of historical information centering about the place names along the various highways of which he writes.

A special course in Minnesota history is being given in the Frazee State High School under the direction of Mr. Arthur D. White, the superintendent.

The popularity of historical pageantry in Minnesota indicates that an increasing number of communities in the state are becoming aware of the effectiveness of living pictures in vivifying the past for the average person. In June at least four pageants of local history were presented in Minnesota (see *ante*, p. 240). Similar interesting spectacles were produced at Spring Valley on July 19 and 20, at Worthington on July 23 and 24, at Rochester on August 23 and 25, and at Glencoe on August 31 and September 1. In Worthington an extensive collection of historical relics was assembled at the time of the pageant and displayed in the windows of local shops as a kind of community loan exhibit. A list of these articles, with the names of the owners, fills about four columns in the *Worthington Globe* for July 26. Among the items mentioned are manuscripts, books, pictures, articles of wearing apparel, household furnishings, and crude farm implements. The successful assembling of this exhibit constitutes excellent evidence both of the suggestive historical value of local pageants and of the practicability of community historical museums.

Constitution Day, on Monday, September 17, was celebrated throughout the state with appropriate meetings, addresses, and ceremonies. Much attention was naturally devoted to the history of the framing of the Constitution and to its significance in the development of the nation.

A letter from Colonel W. C. Brown, which is printed in the *St. Peter Herald* of September 7, contains some information concerning early conditions at Traverse des Sioux, where Colonel Brown was born in 1854.

The story of the Sioux Outbreak of 1862, told from the point of view of a soldier who helped to suppress it, is published in weekly installments in the Sunday issues of the *Minneapolis Tribune* from June 24 to August 5. The author is Thomas Watts of Minneapolis, who fought against the Indians as a member of Company C, Sixth Minnesota Volunteer Infantry. He not only describes the battles in which he participated, the horrors of the massacre, and the condition of the devastated frontier, but also gives an interesting picture of army life — of “the crude military equipment and discipline . . . and the lack of any official food provision.”

On August 22 the sixty-first anniversary of the siege of Fort Ridgely was commemorated at the state park on its site by members of the Fort Ridgely State Park and Historical Association. In an address before the gathering, Mr. Jacob F. Jacobson of Madison reviewed the early history of the section of the Minnesota Valley in which the fort was located. An announcement of the celebration in the *Minneapolis Journal* for August 19 is followed by a long feature article embodying reminiscences of some of the survivors of the Sioux Massacre who are still living.

A number of reunions of survivors of Minnesota regiments have been held recently. On August 11 members of the Thirtieth Minnesota Regimental Association assembled at Fort Snelling for a three-day celebration of the twenty-fifth anniversary of the battle of Manila. Twelve men who fought against the Sioux in 1862 as members of the Sixth Minnesota Volunteer Infantry met at the Capitol in St. Paul on September 8, and seven veterans of the Ninth Minnesota Volunteer Infantry exchanged reminiscences at the home of Dr. Kee Wakefield of Minneapolis on September 5.

In the *St. Paul Pioneer Press* of August 26 some early state fairs are described in connection with an account of the plans for the 1923 exhibition. The more important attractions are noted and statistics are given for the fair of 1857 at St. Paul, of 1860 at Fort Snelling, of 1865 at Minneapolis, and of 1885 at the “permanent location of the State Fair grounds at Hamline.”

The story of Michael J. Dowling and his career is told by Earl Christmas in the *Dearborn Independent* for August 11.

Articles about pioneers are, as usual, numerous in the newspapers of the past three months. A biographical sketch of Mrs. Mary Noltimier of Newport, in the *St. Paul Pioneer Press* for August 26, is combined with a history of the German Methodist Episcopal Church of Woodbury, near St. Paul, of which she is the only surviving charter member. The seventieth anniversary of the founding of the church was celebrated on September 2. Reminiscences of two pioneer residents of Minneapolis, Mr. Rolla Stubbs of Maple Plain and Mrs. F. D. Todd of Minneapolis, appear respectively in the *Minneapolis Tribune* of July 1 and the *Minneapolis Journal* of the same date. An article about Dr. Brewer Mattocks, a St. Paul pioneer now living at Rhinelander, Wisconsin, is published in the *Pioneer Press* for August 26.

LOCAL HISTORY ITEMS

The custom of holding annual historical conventions, which was adopted a year ago by the Minnesota Historical Society, apparently seems worthy of emulation by local organizations. The St. Louis County Historical Society held its first annual summer convention at Virginia on August 6 and 7. A varied and an interesting program with three sessions devoted to historical papers was provided. The convention opened with an evening session on August 6 at which four papers were read. The presiding officer was Mr. M. E. Fanning of Virginia. After an address of welcome by the mayor of Virginia, Mr. William Empie, a paper on "The Old Vermilion Trail" was presented by Mr. William E. Culkin of Duluth, the president of the society. This was followed by papers on "The Iron Ranges in the War," by Mr. Alfred E. Johnson of Virginia; the "Discovery of Iron in St. Louis County," by Mr. Dwight E. Woodbridge of Duluth; and "Early Mining at Eveleth," by Mr. John H. Hearing of Duluth. The presiding officer at the second session, on August 7, at 2:00 p. m., was Mrs. Ervin Lerch of Hibbing. She first introduced Mr. A. E. Bickford of Virginia who discussed the "Early History of Virginia," dealing particularly with the press of that city. Mrs. Mary Lyon Burns of Eveleth then talked on

"The Bright Side of Homesteading." Dr. Solon J. Buck, superintendent of the state society, spoke next, taking as his subject "The Outlook for St. Louis County History." The speaker pointed out the possibilities for further development of historical activity in northeastern Minnesota and emphasized particularly the excellent quality of the papers presented at the convention as an indication of the thoughtful interest of the people of this section in their history. Such well-directed enthusiasm, he said, augured well for the fruitful cultivation of this historical field. The last paper of the session was on the "History of the Vermilion Range Press," by Mr. Peter Schaefer of Ely. The last session, at which Mr. N. B. Shank of Biwabik presided, was held at 8:00 P. M. on the same day. A very interesting talk on "Early Railroading on the Iron Ranges," was given by Mr. William A. McGonagle of Duluth. Mrs. Lerch then spoke informally of the early history of Hibbing, and Mr. W. G. Swart of Babbitt read a valuable paper entitled "Notes of Work Done on the Eastern Mesaba Range by Peter Mitchell." The session closed with a paper on "Pioneer Newspapers of the Mesaba Range," by Mr. W. E. Hannaford of Virginia. The traveling exhibit of the Minnesota Historical Society was sent to Virginia for the convention.

The annual reunion of the Vermilion Range Old Settlers' Association was held at Ely on July 26 and 27.

An address by Mrs. O. H. Healy on "Pioneer Preachers" who labored in the vicinity of Mapleton is published in the *Blue Earth County Enterprise* of Mapleton for July 6.

A "Biographical, Booster and Farm Bureau Edition" of the *Ivanhoe Times*, issued on June 1, contains an article on the "History of Lincoln County."

The "History of Martin County," by William H. Budd, which the *Martin County Independent* of Fairmont has been publishing since February 16 (see *ante*, p. 160), is concluded in the issue for July 10. Beginning on September 4 a series of brief biographical sketches of "Governors of Minnesota" appears in the *Independent*.

An illustrated feature article by Helen Driscoll about the home of Ignatius Donnelly at Nininger appears in the *St. Paul Daily News* for July 15. It includes a detailed description of the library, still preserved in its original state, in which Donnelly wrote the books which made his name familiar throughout the English-speaking world.

The issue of the *Fergus Falls Daily Journal* for June 24 is an anniversary number, marking the passing of half a century since the paper was founded. A biographical sketch and a portrait of A. J. Underwood, who established the *Journal* in 1873; extracts from the first issue; an outline of the growth and development of the paper; and a brief history of Fergus Falls are among the historical data published in this issue.

A series of articles which has been appearing in the *Fergus Falls Tribune* under the title "The Interesting Beginnings of Otter Tail County" consists for the most part of extracts from John W. Mason's history of that county (Indianapolis, 1916). Every now and then, however, an unsigned sketch or some material from a less accessible source is included. For example, on July 19 "Indian Battles at Battle Lake" — incidents in that long conflict between the Sioux and the Chippewa — are described; and on August 9 some reminiscences of Mr. K. O. Sletto, a pioneer of Fergus Falls, are published. Of special interest to readers of the article by Mr. Elmer E. Adams in the May *BULLETIN* is a brief comment, in the *Tribune* for September 6, on the Nelson-Kindred campaign of 1882, translated from the Norwegian of Peer Strömme.

Typical of tales that could be unearthed about numerous Minnesota towns is a brief history of Wilton, in Waseca County, published in the *Minneapolis Journal* and the *St. Paul Dispatch* of July 30. In 1860 Wilton was a thriving town with a promising future; but the Sioux Outbreak, the passing of the railroad six miles away, and a disastrous fire left it a deserted village within ten years. The recent dissolution of its charter was the occasion for the articles.

At the Sawyer House in Stillwater on July 21 three of the four surviving members attended the annual banquet of the

"Last Man's Club," which was organized in 1885 by thirty-three veterans of Company B, First Minnesota Volunteer Infantry. A history of the club by George W. Hazzard is published in the *Stillwater Daily Gazette* of July 21.

Former residents of Read's Landing held their fifteenth annual picnic and reunion at Minnehaha Falls on August 4.

The story of the ferry between Fort Snelling and Mendota, as told by Mr. C. J. Clarkson, its present operator, is reported in the *Minneapolis Journal* for July 8.

An "Olde Tyme Party," devoted to "entertainment and practices in vogue fifty years ago," was given on August 6 at Radisson Inn, Christmas Lake, for the merchants of the Northwest who visited St. Paul and Minneapolis during Twin City Market Week. A feature of the entertainment was an exhibit of pictures of buildings and places in the two cities during pioneer days, assembled by the Minneapolis Civic and Commerce Association and the St. Paul Association. Some of these views are reproduced with announcements of the party in the *St. Paul Pioneer Press* and the *Minneapolis Tribune* of July 29.

A feature article based upon the names of St. Anthony residents as listed in the manuscript returns for Minnesota of the census of 1850, now in the possession of the Minnesota Historical Society, appears in the *Minneapolis Journal* for September 9.

The history of the volunteer fire department of Minneapolis, founded in 1856 by Dr. L. P. Foster, is recounted in the *Minneapolis Journal* for July 15. The pension list of these pioneer fire-fighters now contains but "forty-three names, from an original list of thrice that number."

An interesting account of the "newspaper war" of 1876, when from April to October the *St. Paul Pioneer Press* and the *Minneapolis Tribune* were consolidated and published in St. Paul under the title *Pioneer-Press and Tribune*, appears in the *Tribune* for July 8.

A brief biography and a portrait of Alonzo C. Rand accompany an article in the *Minneapolis Tribune* of September 9 in which

an account is given of the razing of his former residence, a landmark in Minneapolis since 1877.

Members of the Pilgrim Congregational Church of Minneapolis celebrated the fiftieth anniversary of its founding on September 28, 29, and 30. The program for the three days appears, with a brief history of the church, in the *Minneapolis Journal* for September 23.

An excellent historical account of *The Portland Church of Christ, Minneapolis*, by Dr. David Owen Thomas, has been published in pamphlet form in connection with the forty-fifth anniversary of the founding of that church (Minneapolis, 1922. 40 p.).

A biographical sketch of a Minneapolis philanthropist, William H. Eustis, who has recently endowed and donated the land for a hospital for crippled children to be connected with the University of Minnesota, appears with an account of his gift in the *Minneapolis Journal* for July 8.

A sketch of the history of the St. Paul Gas Light Company in the *St. Paul Daily News* for August 26 reveals the interesting facts that in 1857 "seventy-two customers were consuming gas in St. Paul drawn from three miles of mains" and that "they were paying \$6 a thousand feet for it."

PUBLICATIONS OF THE MINNESOTA HISTORICAL SOCIETY

- COLLECTIONS, volume 1. Reprint of the *Annals* of the society published 1850-56, containing miscellaneous papers and sketches. 1902. xii, 430 p. Cloth, \$2.50
- COLLECTIONS, volume 2. Miscellaneous documents and papers. 1860-67. 294 p. Cloth, \$3.50
- COLLECTIONS, volume 3. Miscellaneous papers, sketches, and memoirs. 1870-80. viii, 433 p. Cloth, \$5.00
- COLLECTIONS, volume 4. *History of the City of St. Paul and County of Ramsey, Minnesota*, by J. Fletcher Williams. 1876. 475 p. Cloth, \$12.00
- COLLECTIONS, volume 5. *History of the Ojibway Nation*, by William W. Warren and Edward D. Neill. 1885. 535 p. Out of print
- COLLECTIONS, volume 6. Miscellaneous papers, sketches, and memoirs. 1887-94. iv, 556 p. Cloth, \$3.50
- COLLECTIONS, volume 7. *The Mississippi River and Its Source*, by J. V. Brower. 1893. xv, 360 p. Cloth, \$2.50
- COLLECTIONS, volume 8. Miscellaneous papers, sketches, and memoirs. 1895-98. xii, 542 p. Cloth, \$3.50
- COLLECTIONS, volume 9. Miscellaneous papers, sketches, and memoirs. 1901. xiv, 694 p. Cloth, \$2.50
- COLLECTIONS, volume 10. Miscellaneous papers, sketches, and memoirs. 1905. xvi, viii, 938 p. in 2 parts. Cloth, \$5.00
- COLLECTIONS, volume 11. *Itasca State Park, an Illustrated History*, by J. V. Brower. 1905. 285 p. Cloth, \$3.50
- COLLECTIONS, volume 12. Miscellaneous papers, sketches, and memoirs. 1909. xx, 827 p. Cloth, \$2.50
- COLLECTIONS, volume 13. *Lives of the Governors of Minnesota*, by James H. Baker. 1908. xii, 480 p. Cloth, \$2.50
- COLLECTIONS, volume 14. *Minnesota Biographies, 1655-1912*, by Warren Upham and Mrs. Rose B. Dunlap. 1912. xxviii, 892 p. Cloth, \$2.50
- COLLECTIONS, volume 15. Miscellaneous papers, sketches, and memoirs. 1915. xv, 872 p. Cloth, \$2.50
- COLLECTIONS, volume 17. *Minnesota Geographic Names; Their Origin and Historic Significance*, by Warren Upham. 1920. viii, 735 p. Cloth, \$3.50
- THE ABORIGINES OF MINNESOTA: *A Report Based on the Collections of Jacob V. Brower, and on the Field Surveys and Notes of Alfred J. Hill and Theodore H. Lewis*, by N. H. Winchell. 1911. xiv, 761 p., quarto. $\frac{3}{4}$ leather, \$5.00
- MINNESOTA HISTORY BULLETIN, volumes 1, 2, 3, eight numbers each. Papers, documents, reviews, and notes. February, 1915-November, 1920. 590, 630, 587 p. Cloth, vol. 1, \$8.00; vol. 2, \$3.50; vol. 3, \$5.00
- A HISTORY OF MINNESOTA, by William Watts Folwell, volume 1. To the organization of the state in 1857. 1921. xxii, 533 p. Cloth, \$5.00
- The same in an edition limited to two hundred numbered copies, autographed by the author, and with a portrait of Father Hennepin inserted. $\frac{3}{4}$ leather, \$10.00

